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| President:  Rene Staskal  608) 204-1648  restaskal@madison.k12.wi.us  President Elect:  Tonya Klem  Secretary:  Brooke Souppenne  Brooke.fails@gmail.com  Treasurer:  Kathryn Bush  608 628-2854  [klbush@tds.net](mailto:klbush@tds.net)  Association Manager:  Don Juve  wspamanager@gmail.com | Wisconsin School Psychologists Association, representing school psychologists and graduate educators of school psychology in Wisconsin, opposes AB 487. Specifically, we oppose the provision which would eliminate the ability for school psychologists to obtain private licensure.  Wisconsin, along with the nation, is facing severe shortages in the field of school psychology. Eliminating our ability to practice privately, as AB 487 would do, puts Wisconsin at a disadvantage for hiring and retaining school psychologists, particularly when our neighboring states (Illinois, Minnesota) allow for private licensing. Based on current estimates from the National Association of School Psychologists, the ratio of school psychologists to students in 1:1379, which is significantly higher than the recommended ratio of 1:500-700.   School Psychologists receive extensive training in:    ·         Data collection and analysis  ·         Assessment  ·         Progress monitoring  ·         School-wide practices to promote learning  ·         Resilience and risk factors  ·         Consultation and collaboration  ·         Academic/learning interventions  ·         Mental health interventions  ·         Behavioral interventions  ·         Instructional support  ·         Prevention and intervention services  ·         Special education services  ·         Crisis preparedness, response, and recovery  ·         Family-school-community collaboration  ·         Diversity in development and learning  ·         Research and program evaluation  ·         Professional ethics, school law, and systems  School psychology graduate preparation results in a specialist degree and requires a 1200-hour internship.  School psychologists must be credentialed by the state in which they work. They also may be nationally certified by the National School Psychology Certification Board (NSPCB). The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) sets standards for graduate preparation, credentialing, professional practice and ethics.  (NASP, 2020)  As the legislature continues work on AB487, we hope that you will reinstate the ability for school psychologists to obtain private licensure so that we may continue to provide critical school psychological services to the citizens of Wisconsin.  WSPA Board January 2020 | |
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