



ADVOCACY ALERT

NASP needs you to send a letter to the American Psychological Association (APA) expressing your opposition to the proposed removal of the school psychologist exemption from their official policy document, the Model Act for the State Licensure of Psychologists.

Date: May 1, 2009

NASP needs you to send a letter to the APA Model Act Task Force opposing the removal of the school psychology exemption from their official policy document called the *Model Act for the Licensing of Psychologists*. **The deadline for submitting comments is JUNE 5th and is fast approaching.** Currently, 3,500 letters have been sent to APA through the NASP website. During the first draft of the Model Act revision over 10,000 letters were sent. We hope to approach or exceed this amount during this second comment period but need your help to achieve it. Whether you have one minute or 10 minutes...we need you to take the time to submit your comments.

WE NEED YOU TO SEND A LETTER TO APA THROUGH THE NASP WEBSITE OPPOSING THE REMOVAL OF THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY EXEMPTION. Using the "One-Click Response," NASP will link you to the APA Model Act Comment page. At this page, you will be asked to type in your contact information, comments on the proposals, and submit your form.

If you only have one minute to comment: Enter your contact information, indicate that your comments are "group comments" from NASP, scroll down through the comments that have been prepared, and click "submit form." You will then receive an auto message from APA thanking you for participating in their comment period.

If you have more than one minute to comment: Enter your contact information, indicate that your comments are "personal comments," and then review and amend the prepared comments adding your personal experiences, opinions, and thoughts about the removal of the school psychology exemption. Please note that each section has a 5,000 character limit so you will need to delete some of the prepared comments in order to add your comments. There is a counter for each section to help you gauge the length of your response.

Click here to send your comments to APA using the "One-Click Response":

http://www.nasponline.org/standards/apaleters/oneclick_ap.aspx

For more information on the proposed APA Model Act:

This document serves as guidance to state legislatures for how they should set up their psychology licensing laws. For over 30 years, this policy document has contained an exemption for school psychologists that permitted non-doctoral school psychologists working in schools under the authority of State Education Agencies (SEAs) to use the title “psychologist” and practice psychology in the schools. This language was adopted in whole or in part in almost all of the states and helped pave the way to the current credentialing practices, title use, and professional services provided by school psychologists. NASP is very concerned about the impact of these proposals on our profession, on the accessibility of mental health services in schools, on the potential conflicts that would result between state psychology licensing boards and SEAs, and the confusion that these policy proposals could generate among the public. Additionally, we are concerned that these proposals disproportionately impact school psychologists that are women and ethnic minorities. You can read an analysis of the Model Act proposals and related advocacy materials and resources at:

<http://www.nasponline.org/standards/apamla.aspx>

Thank you for your advocacy efforts and for using the “One-Click Response.” If you have any questions or comments about this alert, please feel free to contact NASP Public Policy Director, Stacy Skalski, at sskalski@naspweb.org or 301-657-0270.

***“I never worry about action, but only inaction.”
--Winston Churchill***