**Masters Student:**

November\_\_\_\_, 2017

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_,

I am a master’s student studying clinical psychology at the Michigan School of Professional Psychology (MiSPP) and am writing to you in support of Senate Bill­­­ 634.

*Ideas: First paragraph*

* *personally speak to why you selected the field of psychology, what you’ve invested in terms of time, energy, efforts, cost; highlight your passion to serve*
* *what you plan to do with your career – who will you serve?*
* *how does this service help the community/society? Is there any way that this specifically helps Michigan?*
* *If you’ve been a Michigan resident, emphasize connection to the state*

*THEN:*

* *why it’s important to have the TLLP extended (see below)*

SB 634 grants a TLLP for 24 months and provides for a one-time renewal which affords sufficient time to complete 2000 hours of supervised post graduate clinical practice and pass the EPPP licensing exam. This is a reasonable timeframe for masters-level graduates and is consistent with other master’s degrees in social work and counseling.

The current law is unreasonable in expecting completion of 2000 hours and passage of the EPPP in one year. **No other mental health degree has these same requirements.** Typically, masters level TLLPs have difficulty acquiring full time positions since most insurance companies do not reimburse for the services of temporary licensed clinicians. Whether working full or part time, the TLLP is typically the lowest paid clinician, yet works with clients who are the most vulnerable; that is, those that have no ability to pay or use their insurance because of high deductibles and copays.

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Provide an example of your situation in this paragraph** \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

I urge you to pass SB 634 so I am able to complete my post graduate clinical hours, study for and pass the EPPP, and move forward to obtain the LLP and serve the mental health needs of the citizens of Michigan.

Sincerely,

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