

Good News!!

Our Bill: **SB 1374 passed unanimously** through the Senate's Health and Human Services committee yesterday!!

Big thanks to everyone who contacted the committee members! That was extremely helpful! Moving forward, there will be a couple of minor changes to the bill and then the bill will be voted on by the whole Senate. After that, the bill will go to the House Health and Human Services committee for approval, then to the full House and lastly to the governor to sign. Please continue to contact your representatives in both the House and Senate along with members of both the House and Senate Health and Human Services committees. As you send letters, please let them know you support the bill. If appropriate, include a brief overview of your story –experience. Feel free to forward this letter and our contact information to other professionals. We need to continue to galvanize our support!

At yesterday's hearing, we had support from all of the professional associations (Az ACA, NASW, AzAADAC and Az MFT's), the Arizona Council of Human Service Providers, and the following counseling programs: ASU, Ottawa University, University of Phoenix, NAU, and Prescott College. Many stakeholders appeared and spoke, adding credibility to our case. The most surprising event of the day for me was that the Board did not vote against the bill but stated that they were **NEUTRAL**. This was a huge shift in their position. Perhaps they are seeing the writing on the wall.

Moving forward, please keep up the support and the letters! This bill still has a long way to go before it gets to the governor to sign. With your support, this will all happen over the next 90 days.

Thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Richard Poppy
Vice-President
TPAA