Attachment E

Written Testimony

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Bill: HB20-1206 Against elim. of R.P.s

Date: 2/19/20

Name	Kat Shea 40yrs in practice
Address (optional)	2925 31st St RP since 94
City (optional)	Boulder Zip (optional) 80304
Telephone: (optional)	303 447-0474
Email: (optional)	katshea@msn.com
Representing	Registered Psychotherapists
Position on Bill:	For / Against X / Neutral

Co. statute defines psycho-therapy as "treatment diagnosis testing assessment" all pathology based except "therapy" + "counseling"

Yes, Lets allow all Diagnosis testing + assment be totally the purview of licenced professionals!

But lets separate: treatment + counseling" "in a professional relationship to assist individuals or groups to alleviate behavioral mental health disorders, understand unconscious or conscious motivation, resolve emotional relationship or attitudinal conflicts or modify behaviors which interfere with effective emotional social or intellectual functioning." This is the description of all helping professions to some degree, and is the high ideal of the scope of practice of Registered Psychotherapists.

The major difference is that R.P.s are much less interested in the pathology - or "what is wrong with this person." the DSM is largely written by pharmaceutical interests, and links largely to medicating the problem yes, knowing descriptors for the issues can be helpful. But this is a human being with a wide spectrum of mental, physical, spiritual, relational, trans-generational effects, wounds... and get underneath a diagnosis is the essence of their original design which is where the healing comes from.

Insurance companies that reimburse services from licenced mental health professionals. There is a huge population that can benefit from their help + knowing insurance can cover part of the cost. We celebrate our colleagues who serve this population that often only seeks help from insurance sanctioned providers.

R.P.s do not accept insurance for the most part, and are not as attached to the labels of diagnosis which can stigmatize a person for their years as it is on their medical record permanently. What if they heal? So those that seek help not wanting labels or medication, who don't have insurance or have a very high deductable R.P.s can offer just the therapy + counseling with different types of

modalities, many of which are not YET offered in mainstream educational systems!
So in response to our colleagues who want to eliminate those who offer different treatment + counselling options for those with no insurance or who choose to seek alternative approaches to explore their inner life.

- the bill is assuming harm in the therapeutic relationship, when DORA has found no such harm... more focus on pathology
- "evidence based" is a very vague term, demanding extensive double blind studies. What about the fact that there is no "control" group. No 2 stones are alike. I would like to propose that "evidence based" is exactly why a person who is being helped will refresh + pay out of pocket. Let the consumer decide evidence based
- If approx. 50% of RPs do not list any educational background at all when Dora REQUIRES a list of educational qualifications + therapeutic orientations. If 50% of RPs don't list those qualifications that should be a DORA issue. How did they allow that in RP applications?
- The human condition is constantly changing, and as we see a mental health crisis in the hearts of children, adolescents, + adults in need. Classically medicine + science have always codified that which is "status quo" and vehemently resisted change. R.P.'s represent the therapeutic paradigms that are outside mainstream. We must always make room for the innovators to meet the changing needs of humanity