

FAIR ACCESS COALITION ON TESTING

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Kentucky Psychology Board Withdraws Restrictive Testing Rules

Lexington, KY—The Kentucky Board of Examiners of Psychology (KYBEP) has withdrawn burdensome regulations that sought to restrict access to psychological instruments.

The Fair Access Coalition on Testing (FACT) joined state and local counseling organizations to oppose a Kentucky regulation that sought to limit mental health services in the state. The state psychology board proposed rules that would allow only licensed psychologists to administer psychological tests. The rule would have prohibited thousands of qualified health care professionals from providing these vital services.

FACT Chair Dave Bergman, J.D., states: "The Kentucky Board of Examiners of Psychology was right to withdraw these burdensome regulations. Kentucky residents already struggle to obtain adequate mental health care, so further restricting access would cause unnecessary harm."

FACT submitted a letter to the KYBEP noting that the rules were unfair, unnecessary and a violation of statute. FACT further referenced a recent U.S. Supreme Court case that removed state antitrust immunity for licensing board members who act in their own interests and not for the public good.

FACT's opposition, along with strong opposition from state and local counselors, was sufficient to convince the KYBEP that the rule should not move forward.

"This is the right outcome for the citizens of Kentucky, and I am glad that FACT was able to help convince the board of the harm that this rule would bring," says Bergman.

FACT is a multidisciplinary, nonprofit coalition of organizations that advocates for consumer access to psychological and behavioral assessments performed by qualified health and education professionals. FACT represents national and state organizations from health care and education professions including counseling, marriage and family therapy, school psychology, speech-language pathology, audiology, and test publishing.

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