



February 1, 2010

The Honorable George Miller
United States House of Representative
Chairman
U.S. House Education and Labor Committee
2185 RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

Thank you for the swift action your Committee has taken in addressing the issue of the harmful and sometimes deadly use of restraint and seclusion in our nation's schools. As we have learned from many recent reports and the hearing held by your Committee on this issue, this is a widespread problem affecting thousands of defenseless schoolchildren annually. Unfortunately, students with disabilities are being subjected to these techniques in disproportionate numbers, often in the name of behavioral treatment. The use of these techniques is unacceptable under any circumstances.

To help address this issue, the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) is pleased to offer its support for H.R. 4247, the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act. We hope the bill can move quickly to passage.

We are most grateful for your commitment to our nation's students. If NCLD can provide any further assistance in the effort to address the critical issue of Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in our nation's schools, please contact our policy director, Laura Kaloi, at 703.476.4894 or lkaloi@nclد.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Wendorf', written in a cursive style.

James H. Wendorf
Executive Director

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