



Easter Seals

Office of Public Affairs
1425 K Street, N.W.
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.347.3066 phone
202.347.7385 tty
202.737.7914 fax
www.easterseals.com

December 8, 2009

The Honorable George Miller
Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

Easter Seals thanks you for introducing the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act. Easter Seals stands ready to work with you on passage of this important legislation.

Every week, we learn of instances when children with disabilities, from preschoolers to high school students, are inappropriately placed in seclusion or restraint at their school or early education and care program. Your bill will go a long way to ending this treatment by promoting training of all school personnel and by requiring schools to report the instances of restraint and seclusion. We also strongly support the provision of your bill that mandates parental notification of every instance of restraint and seclusion. While essential for every child and his or her family, it is absolutely critical for parents of children who are non-verbal.

Thank you for your leadership on behalf of people with disabilities and their families. Easter Seals looks forward to working with you on passage of the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Beh Neas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katy Beh Neas
Vice President, Government Relations