

July 18, 2006

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations representing children with disabilities, their families, educators and special services providers, school administrators and other interested groups urge you to cosponsor the Protecting Children's Health in Schools Act of 2006 sponsored by Representatives John D. Dingell (D-MI), Edward Whitfield (R-KY) and George Miller (D-CA). This legislation will be introduced on July 19, 2006.

The Protecting Children's Health in Schools Act, being introduced by Representatives Dingell, Whitfield and Miller, will ensure that students with disabilities will receive the specialized services they need to be successful in school. School districts play a critical role as a site for healthcare delivery for students during the day. Receiving these medical services through school may be the only way to ensure students get the services they need.

This legislation would clarify the right of school districts to claim for the administrative and transportation costs associated with providing these services to Medicaid eligible students with special needs. Most importantly, it would allow school districts to be treated consistently with other health care providers when it comes to Medicaid reimbursement. The reimbursement helps school districts provide the highest quality services to students with special needs.

Please cosponsor the Protecting Children's Health in Schools Act of 2006. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of School Administrators
American Association of University Women
American Congress of Community Supports and Employment Services and Disability
Services Providers of America Alliance
American Counseling Association
American Dance Therapy Association
American Federation of Teachers
American Music Therapy Association
American School Counselor Association
American Society for Deaf Children
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of School Business Officials International
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
California Department of Education
Chicago Public Schools
Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders
Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf
Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders
Council for Learning Disabilities
Council for Exceptional Children
Council of Chief State School Officers
Council of Great City Schools
Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates
Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund
Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children
Division for Learning Disabilities of the Council for Exceptional Children
Easter Seals
Epilepsy Foundation
Fairfax County Public Schools
Helen Keller National Center
Higher Education Consortium for Special Education
IDEA Infant Toddler Coordinators Association
International Reading Association
Learning Disabilities Association
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Association for the Education of Young Children
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Private Special Education Centers
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Directors of Special Education
National Association of State Title I Directors
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Coalition on Deaf-Blindness
National Disability Rights Network
National Down Syndrome Society
National Education Association
National Mental Health Association
National Rehabilitation Association
National Rural Education Advocacy Coalition
National Spinal Cord Injury Association
School Social Work Association of America
Texas Council of Administrators of Special Education, Inc.
Tourette Syndrome Association

