



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AREA BOARD 10

*Protecting and Advocating for Persons with
Developmental Disabilities in Los Angeles County*

January 7, 2010

The Honorable Jared Huffman
California State Assembly
Capitol Building, Room 3120
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1260
Position: Support**

Dear Assembly Member Huffman,

Developmental Disabilities Area Board 10 is a state agency mandated to protect and assert the legal, civil, and service rights of people with developmental disabilities in Los Angeles County. California has a system of 13 Area Boards, covering all regions of the state. It is on behalf of our Board of Directors and over 70,000 people with a developmental disability who reside in Los Angeles County that I write today to convey our support for AB 1260.

Your bill permits regional centers to fund up to 98% of the respite services a family with a child with a developmental disability had in the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the year before respite services were reduced as a result of ABx4 9.

Once the changes to respite were instituted upon the passage of ABx4 9, many families who received respite saw a substantial cut in the service. Some families, whose children's needs were so great they necessitated more respite hours, saw their respite hours slashed to less than 30% of their previous allocation.

This bill may assist all families who received more than 30 hours per month of respite in the 2008-2009 fiscal year, giving them the option to obtain up to 98% of those hours from regional centers. Additionally, your bill will benefit those whose children have the greatest need for respite.

We thank you for your consideration of our input. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Cathy Blin, Chair
Governmental Affairs Committee

cc: Honorable Members of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee
Mr. Jay Greenwood, Chief Consultant, Assembly Business and Professions
Committee
Honorable Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee
Mr. Bob Franzonia, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and
Economic Development
Mr. Bill Gage, Chief Consultant, Senate Committee on Business, Professions,
and Economic Development
Honorable Members of the Senate Human Services Committee
Mr. Jack Hailey, Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee
Ms. Sue North, Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Rules
Mr. Greg Schmidt, Secretary of the Senate, Senate Committee on Rules