



## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AREA BOARD 10

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

May 17, 2010

The Honorable Joan Buchanan  
California State Assembly  
Capitol Building, Room 4167  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1841 (Buchanan)  
Position: Support**

Dear Assembly Member Buchanan,

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 1841 (Buchanan).

AB 1841 (Buchanan) deletes the requirement for public agencies (i.e., school districts and other local educational agencies) to initiate due process when parents refuse all special education services after having consented to them in the past. Additionally, the public agency may not continue to provide special education services after receiving parental revocation of consent.

In conforming California statute to relatively recent changes in federal regulations, AB 1841 (Buchanan) ensures that families will not have to endure a due process hearing to halt services they no longer wish their child to receive. This bill strengthens a family's ability to engage in self-determination and participate in the education of their child.

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 Education Committee  
Mr. Gerry Shelton, Chief Consultant, Assembly Education Committee  
Honorable Members of the Senate Education Committee  
Mr. James Wilson, Chief Consultant, Senate Education Committee  
Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee  
Mr. Gene Wong, Chief Consultant, Senate Judiciary Committee

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