



Easter Seals

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September 30, 2011

The Honorable George Miller
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Miller:

Thank you for sponsoring the Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act. This legislation is necessary to protect some of our nation's most vulnerable children.

Data from the *Child Maltreatment 2006* report confirm that children with disabilities are significantly more likely to be victims of maltreatment than their peers without disabilities. Moreover, the incidence of child abuse and neglect is on the rise as families struggle with unemployment and housing foreclosure. Children too often develop a disability as a result of abuse and neglect.

The Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act will go a long way to protect children who find themselves in residential programs. The bill will also help families who must face the terrible decision to place their child in a residential facility by providing them with essential information the need to make the most appropriate decision.

Again, thank you introducing the Stop Child Abuse in Residential Programs for Teens Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Beh Neas".

Katy Beh Neas
Senior Vice President, Government Relations