

National Association of Private Special Education Centers

February 3, 2010

The Honorable George Miller
Chair
Committee on Education and Labor
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

On behalf of the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC), a nonprofit association that represents private specialized programs serving individuals with disabilities across the nation, I am writing to let you know that NAPSEC supports the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act (H.R. 4247).

NAPSEC members already meet the requirements of H.R. 4247, due to the population of students that they serve. Training in the proper use of restraint and seclusion is a normal part of the private specialized education program routine. Most importantly, the bill continues to recognize that restraint and seclusion must remain an allowable response for those unpredictable incidents when lives may be put in danger.

The required training in the bill is critical, without it progress can't be made. We are especially pleased with the funding recommendations and that private programs will be eligible for these training dollars.

As you know, states always add a layer of additional requirements to each bill you pass. Anything you can do to stream line the bill and provide clear instructions to states to minimize the extra paperwork, will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sherry L. Kolbe

Sherry L. Kolbe
Executive Director/CEO