

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Max Baucus *Chairman* Committee on Finance United States Senate 219 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baucus:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. We support the principles outlined the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

NCCDD's community grant awards and systems change efforts are guided by the core values set out by Congress in the Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights and Assistance Act (P.L. 106-402) that promote independence, self-determination, productivity, integration and inclusion in community life. Our Council is 40 members who are appointed by our Governor, and 60 percent of our Council are persons with a developmental disability or a family member. Other members include representatives from the North Carolina General Assembly, and those who administer funds under federal law including state service delivery agencies, non-profit and other professional groups.

Families want to be able to save money for the futures of their children with disabilities similar to the way families save for education expenses through special savings plans. Adults with disabilities also want to save to meet their needs while keeping their eligibility for Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and other important federal programs. The ABLE Act would give individuals with disabilities and their families access to accounts that would allow individual choice and control while protecting eligibility for Medicaid, SSI, and other important federal benefits for people with disabilities. People would be able to manage the accounts and use savings for things listed in the bill such as educational expenses, health and wellness care, employment training and support, assistive technology, transportation, housing, and other expenses.

NCCDD asks that you support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Senate Finance Committee will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your efforts to improve the lives of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

Romald D. Reeve

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch

Ranking Member Committee on Finance
United States Senate
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. We support the principles outlined the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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NCCDD asks that you support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Senate Finance Committee will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your efforts to improve the lives of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

Konald D. Rasue

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr. United States Senate 393 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your support of the principles and your sponsorship of the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

NCCDD's community grant awards and systems change efforts are guided by the core values set out by Congress in the Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights and Assistance Act (P.L. 106-402) that promote independence, self-determination, productivity, integration and inclusion in community life. Our Council is 40 members who are appointed by our Governor, and 60 percent of our Council are persons with a developmental disability or a family member. Other members include representatives from the North Carolina General Assembly, and those who administer funds under federal law including state service delivery agencies, non-profit and other professional groups.

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NCCDD asks that you continue to support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Committee will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your efforts to improve the lives of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities



3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Ander Crenshaw United States House of Representatives 440 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Crenshaw:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your support of the principles and your sponsorship of the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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NCCDD asks that you continue to support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Committee will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your efforts to improve the lives of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

Ronald D. Roser

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Joe Pitts
Chairman, Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Health
United States House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Pitts:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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NCCDD asks that you continue to support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Health will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your efforts to improve the lives of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

(919) 420-7901 voice/TDD • (919) 420-7917 fax • 1-800-357-6916 • www.nc-ddc.org

An independent organization residing within the NC Department of Health and Human Services



3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

Congressman David Price The Honorable David Price United States House of Representatives 2162 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Price:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your continued support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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NCCDD asks that you continue to support the principles outlined in the ABLE Act. We hope the Committee will discuss these issues and take action as soon as possible in this Congress. Thank you for your representation and advocacy on behalf of North Carolinians with developmental disabilities.

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Ron Reeve, Chair

Knald D. Rasie

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

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An independent organization residing within the NC Department of Health and Human Services

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Walter Jones United States House of Representatives 2333 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Jones:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your continued support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

Knied D. Rauce

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities



3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable George "G.K." Butterfield United States House of Representatives 2305 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Butterfield:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your continued support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Mike McIntyre United States House of Representatives 2428 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McIntyre:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your continued support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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Sincerely,

Ron Reeve, Chair

Ronald D. Reave

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

Building Bridges to Community

3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Richard Burr United States Senate 217 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Burr:

The North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) works to advance opportunities and services for each of the estimated 172,000 persons with developmental disabilities (DD) in North Carolina. Our Council would like to thank you for your continued support of the principles outlined in the Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act (H.R. 3423/S.1872), which would allow individuals with developmental disabilities in North Carolina greater opportunities to build assets needed for employment, education, and health care.

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Ron Reeve, Chair

Ronald D. Reave

North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities

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3801 Lake Boone Trail Suite 250 Raleigh, NC 27607

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Kay Hagan United States Senate 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hagan:

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North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities