

Action Alert from National APSE 12/2/2009

Call In Your Support for the CLASS Act

APSE is urging its members to call their Senators and tell them to keep the CLASS Act in the final product of health care reform legislation!

Background:

The U.S. Senate is now debating its health care reform bill, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. And while the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act has stayed in the bill this far, it could be stripped from the bill any day now. In fact, we just learned that there will be an amendment to eliminate the CLASS Act from the bill.

One of the biggest obstacles for the CLASS Act is misperception among Members of Congress and their staff that people with disabilities belong in the Medicaid program and cannot work. We must set the record straight and let our Senators know that, while Medicaid is an essential safety net, millions of people who now have or later develop disabilities work and want to take personal responsibility for their long term care needs. This is an empowerment issue - People should not be forced into poverty to get the support they need.

YOU CAN HELP!

Plan to participate ***TOMORROW* December 3** in a national call in day. Join advocates from around the country in making our voices heard! Please call both of your Senators. The toll free number is (800) 958-5374 (you will be prompted to select your state).

Here is a Sample Script:

"Hello. I am calling to ask Senator _____ to make sure the CLASS Act remains in the final health reform bill and to oppose any amendment to strip it from the bill. The CLASS Act will help people to remain independent at home."

For more information about the CLASS Act, visit: www.passtheclassact.org

Thank you!

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