

April 12, 2011

The Honorable Bonnie Lowenthal
California State Assembly
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054
Via Fax: (916) 319-2154

RE: AB 325 - Support

Dear Assemblymember Lowenthal:

We are writing on behalf of the Disability Rights Legal Center to thank you for cosponsoring AB 325, which will provide employees with the right to take time off work for up to four days of bereavement leave a year.

This bill is beneficial to the cancer community because it allows individuals to take time off to grieve and make arrangements following the death of a relative without having to be concerned about losing his or her job. This is an important right for all individuals to have.

The Disability Rights Legal Center (DRLC) has worked to implement the civil rights of people with disabilities for over 30 years. We are the oldest cross-disability legal advocacy organization in the country. Our mission is to promote the rights of people with disabilities and the public interest in, and awareness of, those rights by providing legal and related services. Through our Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC), one of the four programs of the Disability Rights Legal Center, we have unique knowledge and experience with laws and legislation that impact the rights of individuals diagnosed with cancer, cancer survivors and caregivers.

The CLRC has provided over 231,000 people with free and confidential information and resources on cancer-related legal issues, including access to care, insurance, government benefits, estate planning, and employment. Please visit www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org for more information.

The DRLC strongly supports AB 325, and we appreciate your dedication. We look forward to working with you to ensure the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,



Paula D. Pearlman, Esq.
Executive Director,
Disability Rights Legal Center



Joanna L. Morales, Esq.
Director,
Cancer Legal Resource Center

Cc: Assemblymember Bill Monning