

July 13, 2009

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
United States House of Representatives  
2332 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3214  
Via Fax: 202-225-4709

**RE: HR 2132 - Support**

Dear Representative Maloney,

We are writing on behalf of the Disability Rights Legal Center to thank you for sponsoring the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act (HR 2132), which would extend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to permit leave care for a same-sex spouse, domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, or grandparent who has a serious health condition. This bill will guarantee that all employees eligible for the FMLA will be given the right to care for loved ones in matters of serious illness.

By way of introduction, 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.

The CLRC, a national, joint program of the DLRC and Loyola Law School, has provided over 90,000 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](http://www.CancerLegalResourceCenter.org) for more information.

We have a special understanding of the pressing psychosocial needs of people diagnosed with cancer, critical cancer survivorship issues, and the importance of assisting family members and loved ones when there is a serious medical condition at hand. The DRLC strongly supports the Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act, and we appreciate your dedication in the fight to expand workers' rights. 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