

February 22, 2010

The Honorable Rod Wright  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 5064  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Via Fax: 916-445-3712

**RE: SB 961 - Support**

Dear Senator Wright,

We are writing on behalf of the Disability Rights Legal Center to thank you for sponsoring S.B. 961, which would require that health plans that provide coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment to also provide coverage for prescribed orally administered anticancer medications on a basis no less favorable than intravenous anticancer medications. This bill will improve access to life-saving cancer treatment and therapies that would otherwise be unavailable for people with cancer.

Through our Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC), we have unique knowledge and experience with laws and legislation that impact the rights of individuals diagnosed with cancer, cancer survivors, caregivers, healthcare professionals, and employers.

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 155,000 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.

The DRLC strongly supports S.B. 961, and we appreciate your dedication in the fight against cancer. This legislation is crucial to ensure equity of health coverage for cancer treatment. 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