

My address and street
My City, CA 9~

The Honorable ~
Capitol Building, Room ~
Sacramento, CA 95814

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Dear Assembly Member ~ and Senator ~,

I am a resident of your district and the parent of a child, CHILD'S NAME, who has a developmental disability. I am writing to you to express my opposition to Governor Schwarzenegger's Proposed Budget for 2009-2010 and more specifically, its impact on my child.

The budget for the Department of Developmental Services calls for a 3% cut to regional center operations, a 3% cut to regional center service providers, and most devastatingly, a \$334 million unspecified cut to the Regional Centers' Purchase of Service (POS) Budget. The POS budget is the pot of money used to purchase services for regional center clients. The \$334M reduction is equal to DDS's projection for caseload growth over this year or 10% of its budget.

How can regional centers absorb the huge cuts the Governor is proposing? Regional Centers would either have to close their doors to newly identified people with developmental disabilities or reduce or eliminate services people are already receiving. Any of those options would be unacceptable.

Presently, my child receives critically needed services from a regional center including X, Y, and Z. If you approve the Governor's Proposal, my child will no longer receive some or all of these services. Without them, XYZ will happen. I must therefore oppose the Governor's Proposal.

Furthermore, my child has many needs that regional center does not even address. I must therefore absorb these costs; they include EXAMPLES OF THINGS YOU PAY FOR.

I urge you to approve the revenue enhancements needed so that our loved ones with disabilities can be safe and cared for in the family home.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this. Because nothing is more important to me than my child, I would be happy to meet with you to discuss why my child needs regional center services and why the Governor's Proposal must be defeated. You are welcome to contact me at 555/555-5555.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME, SIGNIFICANT OTHER'S NAME, CHILD(REN)'S NAME(S)