



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES

CCD AD HOC DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TASK FORCE 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

January 17, 2008

The Task Force on Developmental Disabilities met on an ad hoc basis and worked primarily on appropriations efforts for programs benefiting people with developmental disabilities and also worked to oppose a bill to weaken the protection and advocacy systems' ability to protect people with disabilities in institutions.

The Task Force came out in strong opposition to a bill H.R. 3995. The original draft bill, sponsored by Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA), would have amended the Developmental Disabilities Act and put limits on all the actions of the P&A network. A revised bill still applies specifically to the P&A network (though the targets are identified as "no entity that receives funds from the Federal government may use such funds to file a class action lawsuit against an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded..."). The Task Force wrote letters and met with Rep. Frank as well as informed the grassroots to prevent additional support for the legislation.

The Task Force began preparing for the reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Act which is expected to be considered by Congress in the upcoming session of the 110th Congress. The Task Force developed a basic fact sheet about the DD Act programs, reviewed ideas put forth by the Administration regarding the DD Act reauthorization, and met with staff of the Bipartisan Disability Caucus co-chairs to plan for a congressional briefing early in the Spring.

Future Activities:

The Task Force plans to develop principles and recommendations for the reauthorization of the DD Act, including the Family Support Act. The Task Force will begin meeting with key committee staff early in the 2nd Session of the 110th Congress.

Co-Chairs in 2007:

- **Kim Musheno**, Association of University Centers on Disabilities
- **Karen Flippo**, National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
- **Curt Decker**, National Disability Rights Network