



*Creating solutions, changing lives.*

*Helping people with disabilities  
gain greater independence*

September 3, 1999

The Honorable Charlie Norwood  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Norwood:

Thank you for your leadership in promoting protections for children and adults with disabilities and their families in managed care. People with disabilities often have extensive health care needs and high health related costs. Too often, managed care, in an effort to save money or through inexperience with chronic disease and disability management, does not provide them with adequate or appropriate services. The impact of these limitations on health status and financial security are severe and devastating for individuals and families.

Easter Seals supports H.R. 2723, the Bipartisan Consensus Managed Care Act of 1999. In conjunction with other health and disability organizations, Easter Seals views this legislation as an important opportunity to put aside partisanship and deal fairly with what the public has been calling for – new managed care consumer protections. H.R. 2723 will help families get access to the health care they need.

Since 1919, Easter Seals has promoted the health, well-being and independence of children and adults with disabilities. Easter Seals serves more than one million people annually through a nationwide network of 107 affiliate organizations. Easter Seals understands the critical link between access to adequate and appropriate health care for people with disabilities and their ability to lead full and productive lives.

Thank you, again, for championing the enactment of H.R. 2723. Children and adults with disabilities and their families must have these protections to assure their health and independence.

Sincerely,

Randall L. Rutta  
Vice President, Government Relations

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