



**MetroWest
Center For
Independent Living**

**People with Disabilities
Living in the Community**

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Proposed Regulations on Seclusion and Restraint

Christine Griffin, Executive Director at the Disability Law Center, is asking for support of new regulations restricting the use of restraint and timeout in schools. The regulations also ban the use of dangerous prone restraints. Please comment before the November 3 deadline.

Dear Friends:

Here is a link to the comments of the Disability Law Center on proposed regulations by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) related to seclusion and restraint in schools:

<http://www.dlc-ma.org/dese/index.htm>.

We would encourage you to spread the word to student advocates and family members, encouraging others to write to support and strengthen the proposed regulations. The DLC webpage also has guidance for parents who are interested in writing comments.

It is also especially important to write comments in support of the ban on prone restraints. For more information on that, please see our "white paper" outlining some of the dangers of the use of prone restraints, also on the web page.

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Finally, the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) is also revising its regulations on seclusion and restraint. Those regs. govern residential schools outside of the school day. Comments to those regulations are due November 21, 2014, and more information is available at

<http://www.mass.gov/edu/birth-grade-12/early-education-and-care/laws-regulations-and-policies/residential-care-regulations-and-policies/proposed-amendments-to-the-restraint-and-seclusion-regs.html>. Please check back with the DLC website in November and more information will be posted there for advocates and parents willing to make comments to EEC.

Thanks very much for your help.

*Rick Glassman
Director of Advocacy, DLC*

*Chris Griffin
Executive Director, DLC*

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