



2008 CP of NYS END OF SESSION UPDATE

Late in the evening on Tuesday, June 24th, the Senate and Assembly gaveled out, adjourning their respective Houses for the official end of the 2008 session and the start of the summer recess. While this had already been one of the most bizarre sessions with the March 17th resignation of Governor Spitzer, the focus at the end of session was on the unexpected announcement by Senator Bruno that he was resigning from his position as Senate Majority Leader and would not seek reelection in November. In an emotional speech, Bruno cited readiness for a change and a desire to spend more time with his family as the reasons for his decision.

After much criticism by the public and the media for not accomplishing anything of significance since the State Budget was passed in early April, agreement was reached on a number of issues including: brownfields redevelopment; prohibiting, with certain exceptions, mandatory nurse overtime; net metering; and new restrictions on sub-prime mortgages. However, legislative leaders and the Governor failed to reach agreement on a number of issues including medical liability reform, property tax relief, and extending a law to give non-profits access to low-cost Industrial Development Agency (IDA) financing. Prior to legislators leaving town, rumors were already circulating about a possible return for a special session later this year.

Below is a list of the bills of interest to CP of NYS Affiliates that passed both Houses. For detailed information and a list of bills that have not passed both Houses, go to the CP of NYS website at www.cpfny.org.

IN THIS ISSUE...

- ◆ *2008 CP of NYS End of Session Update*
- ◆ *CP of NYS Hosts Conference at Camp Jened*
- ◆ *TEACCH Training Workshop Scheduled for September at Prospect Child and Family Center*
- ◆ *Mockingbird Foundation, Inc. Offers Music Education Grants*

OMRDD

- OMRDD Health Care Proxy – *S.7751-A Hannon/A.11054-A P. Rivera*
- Surrogate Decision Making Committees – *S.7752 Hannon/A.10833 Weisenberg*
- Board Requirements – *S.8047-A Morahan/A.11499 Rules at the Request of P. Rivera*
- Meal Rights – *S.8551-A Rules/A.11482-A Rules at the Request of T. Gordon*
- Jonathan's Law Amendments – *S.8389-A Morahan/A.10897-A T. Gordon*
- Direct Care Worker Hours – *S.8679-A Rules/A.11757 Rules at the Request of P. Rivera*
- Protecting Children in Residential Facilities from Child Abuse – *S.8534-A Morahan/A.11753 Rules at the Request of T. Gordon*
- Task Force on Workers Care – *S.4438-A Morahan/A.11239 P. Rivera*
- Appeal for a Denial of Adult Services – *S.8545 Morahan/A.9225-A Weisenberg*
- SDMC Eligibility – *S.8136 Morahan/A.10811 P. Rivera*
- State Autism Prevalence Study – *S.8475-A Morahan/A.7942-B P. Rivera*
- Report on State Autism Services – *S.5760 Marcellino/A.11275 Schimel*
- Services for Multiply Disabled – *S.4437-A Morahan/A.6.819-B P. Rivera*
- Most Integrated Setting – *S.7337 Griffio/A.7277 Destito*

SED

- Autism Training of Special Education Teachers – *S.8497 Saland/A.11550 Rules at the Request of Weisenberg*
- Information for Deaf and Blind Students – *S.6533-A Rath/A.9511-A Destito*
- Community Service Information – *S.7981-A Saland/A.10549-B Weisenberg*
- Home-Schooled Students – *S.7490-B Winner/A.11463 Rules at the Request of Benedetto*
- Mandatory Continuing Education for Physical Therapists – *S.7936-A Padavan/A.10985-A Canestrari*
- Out-of-State Placement Committee Residential Bed Plan – *S.8196-A Golden/A.11001-A Millman*

DOH

- Durable Medical Equipment Council – S.4022-A Bonacic/A.11675-B Rules at the Request of Young
- Nurse Overtime Restrictions – S.8637 Morahan/A.11711 Rules at the Request of Gunther
- Home Care Registry – S.8449 Hannon/A.11468 Rules at the Request of Gottfried
- Care at Home Waiver Program – S.8702 Hannon/A.11416 Rules at the Request of Gottfried
- Early Autism Screening Program – S.6527-B Hannon/A9.512-A Weisenberg

CP of NYS HOSTS CONFERENCE AT CAMP JENED

More than 50 people attended a one-day conference on Fitness, Recreation and Sports at Camp Jened in the Catskills on June 9. The schedule featured 10 sessions presented by experts from several different organizations providing fitness, recreation, and sports opportunities for people with disabilities.

The day began with a 9:00 a.m. keynote presentation on what goes into creating a healthy lifestyle. Dr. Susan Wilson, Associate Professor in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the State University of New York at Cortland, discussed practical ways for everyone to put more recreation and leisure in their lives.

The morning continued with a presentation on adapted physical activity programs and techniques designed by On Your Mark, an organization in Staten Island that promotes the health, fitness, cognitive and social skills of individuals with severe developmental disabilities. Gene Spatz, Executive Director of On Your Mark, led this session. Other morning sessions included an overview of a baseball program for adults with disabilities and an interactive session -presented by Sandy Hoffman and Janet Lefkowitz of the United States Tennis Association demonstrating how adapted tennis can achieve positive results through teaching progressions.

The afternoon included presentations by Jerry McCole of Blaze Sports America on the organization's programs, including a demonstration of the sport of Boccia. Meredith Wade from CP Rochester conducted a workshop on how to begin a power wheelchair soccer program, and Bill Collins, Director of Training for Special Olympics New York, discussed how his organization uses athletic training and competition to promote inclusion and acceptance for everyone in the community.

The afternoon schedule also included a presentation by representatives of the NYS Inclusive Recreation Resource Center at SUNY Cortland on the Center's programs designed

to provide information on how best to pursue recreation in the most inclusive setting and a very popular and dynamic hands-on session from the Adaptive Sports Foundation in Windham highlighting some of their activities for people with disabilities, including skiing, cycling, and kayaking.

Plans are underway to conduct another conference in the summer of 2009.

TEACCH TRAINING WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER AT PROSPECT CHILD AND FAMILY CENTER

Judy Pope, Ph.D., and Allison Butwinski of the Treatment and Education of Autistic and related Communication handicapped CHildren (TEACCH) Center at the University of North Carolina, will present a 2 ½ day training workshop for educators, psychologists, therapists, and parents working with children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in Queensbury, NY, September 24-26.

The training workshop is sponsored by Prospect Education Programs and will take place at Prospect Child and Family Center on Aviation Road in Queensbury. For more information or to register for the workshop, call Debra Gilbert at (518) 798-0170.

MOCKINGBIRD FOUNDATION, INC. OFFERS MUSIC EDUCATION GRANTS

The Mockingbird Foundation, Inc. is offering competitive grants to schools and non-profit organizations to support music education for children. Mockingbird is particularly interested in music projects that encourage and foster self-esteem and creative expression in any musical form.

Mockingbird is interested in targeting children eighteen years or younger, but will consider projects which benefit college students, teachers, instructors, or adult students. Mockingbird is particularly (though not exclusively) interested in programs which benefit disenfranchised groups, including those with low skill levels, income, or education; with disabilities or terminal illnesses; and in foster homes, shelters, hospitals, prisons, or other remote or isolated situations. Grants range in size from \$50 to \$5,000 each.

Grants are made across the United States, and are typically made only to non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations, or those who have a sponsoring agency with 501(c)(3) status, or to public schools. Visit the foundation's web site (www.mockingbirdfoundation.org) for complete application information.