



**ALERT! New Law to Prevent Abuse in Schools;
First "All About IEPs" Program in FL on Jan 15**

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**New Bill: Preventing
Harmful Restraint and
Seclusion Act
(H.R. 4247)**

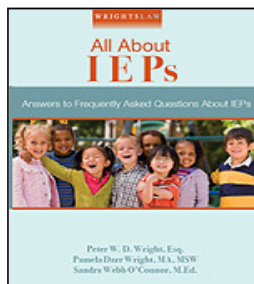
**New! First "All About
IEPs" Program in
Florida
on January 15**

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**The
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On Wednesday, Congressman George Miller, Chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee told families, "Something is very wrong when our children are at risk of abuse or worse at school."

Mr. Miller knew about Cedric, a 14-year old student in a special education classroom in Texas. He lived with a foster family because of a history of neglect, including malnutrition. In 2002, his teacher tried to punish Cedric by withholding food, despite the abuse he had suffered as a young child.



Cedric's teacher delayed his lunch for hours to discipline him for not doing his work. When he did not comply with her demands, the teacher put him in a face down restraint and sat on him in front of his classmates. Cedric said repeatedly that he could not breathe. He died minutes later on the classroom floor as his terrified classmates looked on.

Sadly, Cedric's story is not an isolated case.

In California, a young girl with Asperger's syndrome was restrained because she was wiggling her loose tooth. Her mother did not know that her daughter was being restrained often until her daughter came home with bruises.

Local newspapers recount horrifying stories of children tied to chairs, children's mouths taped shut, children locked in dark closets, or pinned to the floor for hours (see [Teacher Fired](#), [Isolation Room Closed, Lawsuit Pending](#) and [Physical Restraint of Medically Fragile Child](#)).

Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion Act (H.R. 4247)

On Wednesday, December 9, George Miller (D-CA), chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee and Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) introduced the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act (H.R. 4247). This legislation is intended to protect children from the harmful use of restraint and seclusion at school.



As usual, the devil is in the details. Is this bill as good as it needs

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or Tampa/St Pete, FL- All
About IEPs

March - CA, IL, LA, MI

April - MD, ME, NJ

Full Schedule

Looking for Help?



Contact Info

Pete and Pam Wright
Wrightslaw & The Special
Ed Advocate
P. O. Box 1008
Deltaville, VA 23043

to be? What changes can Congress make in the Bill to improve it?

Next week, we will publish a comprehensive article about the **Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act**.

If you [subscribe to The Special Ed Advocate](#), you will receive a link to that article and additional information about this Bill.

To learn more about this proposed law, read [Something is Very Wrong When Our Children Are at Risk in School](#) on the [Wrightslaw Way Blog](#).

Link to this Alert:

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/nltr/09/al.abuse.hr4247.htm>

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First Wrightslaw "All About IEPs Program" in Florida on January 15, 2010

[Wrightslaw All About IEPs](#) is a new program (one day, five hours) that focuses on the legal requirements for IEPs and how to develop SMART IEPs. This program will be held in Orlando or Tampa - Pete is checking out conference sites now.

In the [All about IEPs](#) program, [Pete Wright](#) will teach you how the legal requirements for IEPs changed in IDEA 2004 and the federal special education regulations, how to use the Commentary to the regulations, and significant legal cases about IEPs.

You will learn how to draft **SMART IEPs** that are **S**pecific, **M**easurable, use **A**ction Words, are **R**ealistic, and **T**ime Limited.

Your registration fee includes two books: [Wrightslaw: All About IEPs](#) (retail: \$12.95) and [Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy](#) (retail: \$19.95)

Wrightslaw programs are designed to meet the needs of parents, teachers, related service providers, health care professionals, social service workers, advocates, and attorneys who represent children with disabilities.

Note: [All About IEPs](#) is not about how to get schools to comply with the law. IEP compliance issues are addressed in one-day [Special Education Law & Advocacy](#) programs.

[Full Schedule](#) is at <http://www.wrightslaw.com/speak/schedule.htm>

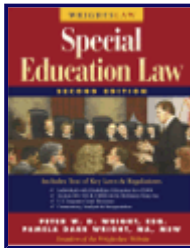
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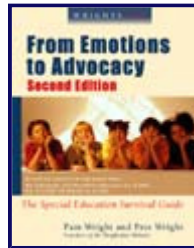
What People Are Saying About The Special Ed Advocate Newsletter

"Thanks for the trustworthy information and support you provide through the Wrightslaw web site and newsletter. You helped our family act when we needed to - we are thriving now."

Great Products From Wrightslaw



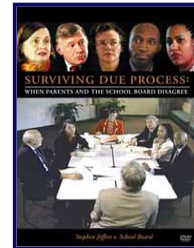
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