

August 11, 2026

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

As you likely know, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel recently issued a [memo](#) stating, essentially, that there is no integration mandate for people with disabilities under federal law.

The integration mandate was affirmed in the U.S. Supreme Court's *Olmstead v. Lois Curtis* case, and states across the country have taken important steps to make sure that disabled people can live in the community with supports and are not forced into institutions to receive care. The integration mandate is one of the most important rights that people with disabilities have. It has allowed countless disabled people to live, work, and participate fully in their communities instead of being confined to institutions.

We write to ask you to publicly affirm California's support for *Olmstead* and the integration mandate as set out in the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and to reject the incorrect and hateful reasoning contained in the OLC memo. You can do this by affirming the attached statement entitled [Our Commitment to Community Integration for People with Disabilities](#). Specific sign-on information to show your support can be conveyed by email to appropriate staff.

Californians and our elected officials share a decades-long understanding that serving disabled people in the community is right, just, desired, feasible, necessary, and required by law. We cannot go back to the unnecessary, unlawful, and inhumane institutionalization of people with disabilities.

Your support is important and greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

SEVENTY-EIGHT CALIFORNIA ORGANIZATIONS

Access Central Coast
Aging Services Collaborative of Santa Clara County
Alzheimer's Los Angeles
The Arc of California
Association of Regional Center Agencies

CA Policy Center for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
CAADS
California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform
California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A)
California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS
California Commission on Aging
California Community Living Network
California Council Of The Blind
California Disability Services Association
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA)
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
CalPACE
Cardea Health
Center for Accessible Technology
Center for Access to QDROs
Center for Caregiver Advancement
Center for Racial & Disability Justice
Child Care Law Center
Choice in Aging
The Coelho Center for Disability Law, Policy, and Innovation
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
Dayle McIntosh Center for the Disabled
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Service Center
Deaf Counseling Advocacy and Referral Agency (DCARA)
DeepConnections Somatic & Spiritual Practice
Designing Accessible Communities
Disability Rights California
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund
Disability Voices United
Drug Policy Alliance
East Bay Innovations
Family Caregiver Alliance
FREED Center for Independent Living
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network
HireAble
Housing Choices
Impact Fund
Integrated Community Collaborative
Integrated Resources Institute
Jewish Family Service Los Angeles
Justice in Aging
The Kelsey

Legal Aid at Work
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
Legal Assistance for Seniors
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
LTSS4All
Marin Center for Independent Living
Momentum Agencies
MSSP Site Association
National Health Law Program
National Housing Law Project
New Horizons: Serving Individuals with Special Needs
NorCal Services for Deaf & Hard of Hearing
NorCal Spinal Cord Injury Foundation
PathPoint
Personal Assistance Services Council
PRC
Public Counsel
Redwood Family Care Network
Resources for Independence Central Valley
San Francisco Disability Cultural Center
San Francisco Senior and Disability Action
Senior Advocacy Network
Senior Coastsiders
Silicon Valley Independent Living Center
Stanford Medicine Alliance for Disability Inclusion and Equity
St. Barnabas Senior Services
The Wage Justice Center
Valon Consulting
Western Center on Law and Poverty
Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights
Youth Law Center

ADDITIONAL ADVOCATES

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Connie Arnold
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Megan Schirle
Richard Skaff
Beth Smith
Nancy Stevens, Rancho Mirage Resident Council
J Stipanuk
Judith Smith
Elena Tiffany
Valerie Vivona

Enclosed: Our Commitment to Community Integration for People with Disabilities

August 11, 2026

Attorney General Rob Bonta
1300 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2919

Dear Attorney General Bonta:

As you likely know, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel recently issued a [memo](#) stating, essentially, that there is no integration mandate for people with disabilities under federal law.

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Enclosed: Our Commitment to Community Integration for People with Disabilities

Our Commitment to Community Integration for People with Disabilities

The undersigned states are committed to serving people with disabilities in their own homes and communities. We have done so successfully for years, and our communities are better because of it.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that people with disabilities be served in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs. Serving people with disabilities in the community, where they can lead full lives, has long had bipartisan support.

We are deeply concerned about the June 18, 2026 memo from the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel. We remain committed to community integration, which has long been required by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* and decades of subsequent law.