

SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON AUTISM & RELATED DISORDERS

Chair, President pro Tempore

Darrell Steinberg

**A Report on the Legislative
Agenda of the Committee:
2008 – 2014**

SUBMITTED BY COMMITTEE STAFF

Lou Vismara, MD

Bob Giovati



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***“A Report on the Legislative Agenda
of the Committee: 2008-2014”***

Table of Contents

TAB 1) Welcome & Overview: Sen. Darrell Steinberg

TAB 2) Summary of Legislation

TAB 3) Overview of Annual Legislative Activities

TAB 4) Autism & Developmental Disabilities Legislative
Packages: Bill Summaries & Results

- a) 2014 (page 6)
- b) 2013 (page 9)
- c) 2012 (page 12)
- d) 2011 (page 13)
- e) 2010 (page 15)
- f) 2009 (page 17)
- g) 2008 (page 18)

Welcome & Overview: Sen. Darrell Steinberg

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California State Senate

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DARRELL STEINBERG
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT

STANDING COMMITTEES:
SENATE RULES
CHAIR
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PUBLIC SAFETY



September 12, 2014

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

During my tenure as the President Pro Tempore, I have enjoyed the privilege of establishing and chairing the Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders (Committee).

The Committee was formed with the following objectives: 1) *To provide a forum to promote policies and legislation to better assist individuals with ASD and their families.* 2) *To advance the work of the California Autism Blue Ribbon Commission.* 3) *To do all these things recognizing the fiscal challenges that confront the State.*

The Committee has fulfilled these intentions and has improved the lives of Californians dealing with these disorders. I would like to recap the work of the Committee, itemize its legislative accomplishments, and acknowledge the endeavors that have contributed to its success.

During the past six years the Committee convened 12 Autism Regional Taskforces and an Autism Statewide Coordinating Council. These entities provided an invaluable liaison between the Committee and numerous grass roots organizations. Their input, combined with the bipartisan support of my fellow Legislators, were crucial to the successful enactment of California's Autism Insurance Mandate (SB 946), which I authored in 2011.

SB 946 not only provided the most comprehensive private insurance coverage for ASD in the nation, but also established the groundwork for autism therapy as part of California's Affordable Care Act coverage. This legislation also served as a catalyst and played an important role in the

recent extension of ASD behavioral health treatment for Medi-Cal consumers who are under 21 years of age.

The Committee has also focused on other important issues and convened informational hearings on the following topics:

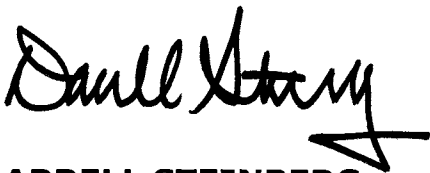
- Therapy for Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Telehealth and Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Ensuring Fair & Equal Access to Regional Center Services for Autism Spectrum Disorders.
- Entrepreneurial Philanthropy: An Important Model for Autism Research and Treatment in the 21st Century.
- Vocational Training & Employment for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) & Related Disorders: Challenges & Innovative Solutions.

The invaluable information, data and input that were provided by numerous consumers, families, advocates, and ASD experts formed the crucial basis for legislation, resolutions, and regulatory changes that have been implemented since 2008. These specific legislative measures are listed and summarized in the following pages.

I would like to acknowledge the work of my fellow Committee members and their staff and thank them for their steadfast support.

In closing, i would like to dedicate the work of the Committee to the individuals, and their families, who are overcoming the challenges of ASD. Your dedication, perseverance and passion are a true inspiration and a constant reminder of the privilege of serving in the California Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell Steinberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

DARRELL STEINBERG
President pro Tempore

Summary of Legislation

(TAB 2)

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Autism & Developmental Disabilities Legislation: *Summary of Measures & Outcomes (2008-2014)*

The Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders, which was established and chaired by Senator Darrell Steinberg, has been actively involved in spearheading and supporting a number of legislative measures.

The following data provide an overview of the Committee's legislative activities during Senator Steinberg's tenure as the President pro Tempore of the California Senate:

Total Number of Legislative Measures: **51**

- Bills introduced in the Senate: **36 (70%)**
- Bills introduced in the Assembly: **7 (14%)**
- Resolutions: **7 (14%)**
- Regulatory changes **1 (2%)**

Results & Outcomes of Legislation:

- Measures enacted into law: **21 (41%)**
- Law enacted by regulatory changes: **2 (4%)**
- Passed by Legislature-await Governor's decision: **3 (6%)**
- Bills passed by Legislature-vetoed by Governor: **8 (16%)**
- Bills held in a committee of the Legislature: **17 (33%)**

**Overview of Annual Legislative
Activities**
(TAB 3)

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities Legislation
from 2008-2014: ANNUAL SUMMARY**

YEAR	NUMBER OF MEASURES INTRODUCED	PASSED BY LEGISLATURE	VETOED	SIGNED INTO LAW
2014	8 in Senate & 1 regulatory change	6; <i>(1 held by author)</i>	0; <i>(3 await Gov's action)</i>	2; <i>(3 await Gov's action)</i>
2013	10 in Senate 2 in Assembly	9	2	6
2012	4 in Senate <i>(included 2 Reso.)</i>	4	2	2
2011	4 in Senate <i>(included 2 Reso.)</i> 2 in Assembly	2	0	2
2010	5 in Senate <i>(included 1 Reso.)</i>	3	1	2
2009	4 in Senate <i>(included 1 Reso.)</i>	1	0	1
2008	8 in Senate <i>(included 1 Reso.)</i> 3 in Assembly	8	3	5
TOTAL	43 in Senate; <i>(included 7 Reso.)</i> 7 in Assembly 1 regulatory change	33	8	20 <i>(3 await Gov's action)</i> 2 Laws~ Regulations

Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Packages:
Bill Summaries & Results
(TAB 4)

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Package of 2014**

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 1176	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Autism Health Insurance Project; CAPG; CARD; ARCA	Requires health plans and insurance companies to monitor all out-of-pocket expense (co-pays, co-insurance, & deductibles) by consumers and notify them when the maximum amount was attained.	Passed Senate; held in Assembly by author; bill's goals will be implemented by regulations.
SB 1445	Sen. Noreen Evans	Center for Autism & Related Disorders (CARD)	This bill amends Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 4512 to include "telehealth" as one of the specified Services and supports that may be provided by Regional Centers for persons with developmental disabilities.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 852 <i>(page 506; Budget Bill)</i>	Sen. Mark Leno	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	\$15 M are provided as a one-time appropriation from the Mental Health Services Fund to establish the <u>Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence for California</u> at UCD and UCLA	SIGNED INTO LAW

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 852 <i>(Trailer bill budget)</i>	Sen. Mark Leno	Sen. Steinberg; Sen. Block; Speaker Atkins	Provides a one-time \$2M allocation to establishes the statewide Cal-BRAIN, led by UC San Diego, which will complement to the federal BRAIN Initiative and aims to “accelerate the development of brain mapping techniques, including the development of new technologies.”	SIGNED INTO LAW
ARTICLE 4. The Medi-Cal Benefits Program [14131 – 14138)	Dept. of Health Care Services	Sen. Steinberg; Autism families & Advocates	Medi-Cal ABA therapy for ASD: To the extent required by the federal government and effective no sooner than required by the federal government, behavioral health treatment (BHT), as established by SB 946 (Steinberg) and defined by Section 1374.73 of the Health and Safety Code, shall be a covered Medi-Cal service for individuals under 21 years of age.	Established in Law
SB 1127	Sen. Norma Torres	The Help Group	Amends existing law (“The Silver Alert”) to enable the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to utilize the Emergency Digital Information Service Message or an electronic flyer to assist in the location of missing individuals who are developmentally disabled.	Passed by Legislature and is now awaiting the Governor’s signature.
SB 1093	Sen. Carol Liu	Disability Rights California	Legislation would require regional center performance contracts to address any racial, ethnic, and language disparities identified in Welfare & Institutions Code, Section 4519.5 & 4519.6; to compile purchase of service (POS) data by residency type and to post POS data on their internet web site.	Passed by Legislature and is now awaiting the Governor’s signature.
SB 577	Sen. Fran Pavley	Author	Establishes a new service category (Community Based Prevocational Service) that will qualify for federal matching funds and will promote the Employment First policy and support individuals in achieving their highest vocational outcome through learning and work experiences. SB 577 will also enhance opportunities for integrated, competitive employment	Passed by Legislature and is now awaiting the Governor’s signature.

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 1178	<i>Sen. Lou Correa</i>	Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)	This bill establishes the Housing Trust Fund, which would be financed by savings from Developmental Center operations and would be allocated for housing development and rental subsidies for individuals with developmental disabilities.	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee due to fiscal considerations.

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Autism & Developmental Disabilities Legislative Package of 2013

(Text of bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 126	Sen. Steinberg	Autism Speaks ARCA ACAO	Extends the provisions of SB 946 (California's Autism Insurance Mandate Coverage) until July 1, 2019.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 555	Sen. Correa	Disability Rights California	Requires that the regional centers make every reasonable effort to communicate in the "native language" of the consumer/family during the IPP/IFSP process; a requirement that is consistent with existing state and federal statutes.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 208	Sen. Lara	Fiesta Educativa	Requires new "Request of Proposals" from regional centers to include a section to evaluate applicant's ability to provide culturally and linguistically competent services and supports	SIGNED INTO LAW

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 367	Sen. Block	UC Riverside SEAARCH Program	This bill amends current law that require all regional center board members to receive necessary training & support to include issues related to linguistic & cultural competency. Regional centers will post the training and supports on their web sites.	SIGNED INTO LAW
AB 1232	Asmbr. V. M. Perez	Fiesta Educativa	Requires that linguistic and cultural competency also be included as outcome measures as part of the DDS quality assurance instrument.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 468	Sen. Emmerson	Autism Society of Los Angeles; Disability Rights California	Establishes a “Self-Determination Program” that allows regional center consumers to use an individual budget for the purchase of service and supports at the consumer’s discretion.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 158	Sen. Correa	Author	Establishes a demonstration program to identify best practices related to linguistic and cultural competency to establish guidelines for regional centers to improve services for underserved communities.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
AB 1231	Asmbr. V. M. Perez	Center for Autism & Related Disorders	Requires DDS to provide information on the use of telehealth and teledentistry and makes other changes to promote the use of these services in the regional center system	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
SB 231	Sen. Correa	B.R.A.V.E. Peacebuilders The Help Group United SIKHS	Establishes in the Calif. Dept. of Education (CDE) a CA Bullying Prevention Clearinghouse and Advisory Council that would act as a repository of information on antibullyin resources, links and available services.	Held in Assm. Appropriations Committee

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 163	Sen. Hueso	Autism Speaks State Council Dev. Disabilities	Provides clarifications on the fiscal responsibilities of regional centers in paying for co-pays, co-insurance and deductibles for the IPP services that are provided by private health plans and insurance companies.	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.
SB 319	Sen. Price	Special Needs Network	Provides guidelines and reporting requirements for the regional center and DDS requirement to monitor various demographic parameters regarding purchase of services	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.
SB 321.	Sen. Price	Special Needs Network	Requires Dept. of Developmental Services to establish performance contract guidelines for regional centers that are related to equity, diversity and cultural competence.	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Package of 2012**

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SJR 18	Sen. Fran Pavley	Author	This measure would urge the President and the Congress of the United States to immediately enact the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2011.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SCR 69	Sen. Fran Pavley	Author	This measure designates April 2012 as California Autism Awareness Month, would affirm the Legislature's commitment to the important issues related to autism spectrum disorders (ASDs), and would emphasize that each and every individual with an ASD is a valued and important member of our society.	SIGNED INTO LAW
SB 764	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	This bill would require Regional Centers to consider the use of telehealth for consumers and families whenever telehealth can provide improved services, enhanced access, or more cost-effective supports.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor.
SB 1050	Sen. Elaine Alquist	The Children's Partnership	The Dept. of Developmental Services would establish an autism telehealth task force, which would provide recommendations to DDS in the area of telehealth to improve services for consumers with autism spectrum disorders.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor.

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Package of 2011**

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 946	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	ACAO; Autism Speaks; Sped. Needs Network; The Help Group	Autism Insurance Mandate Bill that requires private health care plans and health insurance policies to provide coverage for behavioural health treatment for autism spectrum disorders.	Signed into Law
SCR 29	Sen. Fran Pavley	Author	Designates April as Autism Awareness Month.	Signed into Law
SB 453	Sen. Lou Correa	Bullies Really Are Violating Everyone (B.R.A.V.E.); PeaceBuilders	Establishes a new code section to identify bullying acts that are perpetrated on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender or disability; enables schools to summarily expel students who have engaged in chronic bullying.	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee due to fiscal considerations
SB 472	Sen. Lou Correa	Author	Various state agencies would develop an integrated system of services to enhance the development of children who have, or are at risk for, disabilities.	Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
AB 1375	<i>Assembly Member Allison Huber</i>	Author	This bill would promote statewide standardized guidelines, best practices, and innovative approaches for the provision of services for ASD	Held in Assembly Human Services Committee
AB 1205	<i>Assembly Member Bill Berryhill</i>	Behavior Analyst Certification Board	This bill would enable the California Board of Behavioral Science to establish a licensing procedure for a “certified applied behavior analyst” or a “certified assistant behavior analyst.”	Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Package of 2010**

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 812	Sen. Roy Ashburn	Author	This bill would require the local government to include in the special housing needs analysis, needs of individuals with a developmental disability within the community	Signed into Law
SJR 31	Sen. Fran Pavley	Author	This measure would urge the President and the Congress of the United States to immediately enact the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2009.	Signed into Law
SB 1883	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	This bill would establish guidelines and streamline the appeals process for the determination of appeals and grievances that are filed by consumers with the Department of Managed Health Care. Data on this process would also be available annually to consumers.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
SB 1882	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	SB 1282 establishes a process, as well as standards and criteria, by which the state confers recognition upon the professionals who provide applied behavior analysis (ABA) services to individuals with medical conditions such as autism spectrum disorders (ASD.)	Passed Senate; Held in Asm. B&P Committee

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 797	<i>Sen. Fran Pavley</i>	Author	The Toxics-Free Babies & Toddlers Act eliminates the use of the toxic chemical bisphenol A (BPA) in baby bottles and other containers that that provide nourishment to young children.	Assembly amendments failed in Senate

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**Autism & Developmental Disabilities
Legislative Package of 2009**

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SCR 10	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	Established the Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders.	Signed into Law
SB 383	Sen. Carol Liu	Author	This bill would require DDS to implement a 2-year Autism Pilot Program to establish best practices for early screening, diagnosis, referral, and treatment for children with ASD.	Held in Senate Suspense File
SB 683	Sen. Alex Padilla	Author	This bill would authorize each county office of education to create an educational program to provide employment-related services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other disabilities or special needs	Held in Assembly Suspense File
SB 621	Sen. Dean Florez	Author	This bill establishes the Legislature's intent to seek federal funding to promote and implement employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities in areas related to renewable energy, environmental safety, and conservation	Held in Senate Suspense File

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Autism & Developmental Disabilities Legislative Package of 2008

(The bills are available at www.leginfo.ca.gov)

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 1175	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)	Expansion of Housing for Regional Center (RC) consumers; authorizes all RCs to enter into contracts with specified entities for the payment of leases on housing for regional center clients.	Signed into Law
SCR 10	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	Proclaims April as Autism Awareness Month; promotes support for ASD programs & federal funding for these programs	Signed into Law
SB 1531	Sen. Lou Correa	Author	Establishes the Police Officer Training Course on Autism Spectrum Disorders; requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to make available an electronic course on interacting with people with ASD	Signed into Law
AB 2302	Assembly Member Karen Bass	Author	This bill will authorize a teacher who holds "mild-moderate" special ed credential to provide instruction to K-12 pupils with ASD.	Signed into Law
AB 131	Assembly Member Jim Beall	Author	This bill will authorize a teacher who holds "mild-moderate" special ed credential to provide instruction to pre-school pupils with ASD.	Signed into Law

Bill	Author	Sponsor	Content	Status
SB 527	Sen. Darrell Steinberg	Author	Pilot project established by DDS to establish best practices for the effective identification, assessment and treatment of children with ASD and other developmental delays.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
SB 1563	Sen. Don Perata	Author	Establishes Autism Workgroup for Equitable Health Insurance Coverage within DMHC, to review the standards and best practice guidelines adopted by DDS for the evaluation and treatment of ASD; to develop recommendations on ensuring that healthcare service plans and health insurers provide appropriate and equitable coverage for those conditions.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
AB 1872	Assembly Member Coto	Author	This bill requires the Ca. Dept. of Ed. to establish the Autism Spectrum Disorder Clearinghouse to provide evidence-based recommendations and practices for the education of pupils with ASD.	Passed by the Legislature; Vetoed by the Governor
SB 1364	Senator Gil Cedillo	Author	Declares that ASD is a public health crisis; establishes the California Autism Public Health Advisory Council and a voluntary ASD registry.	Held in Senate Suspense File
SB 383	Sen. Carol Liu	Author	This bill would require DDS to implement a 2-year Autism Pilot Program to establish best practices for early screening, diagnosis, referral, and treatment for children with ASD.	Held in Senate Suspense File
SB 683	Sen. Alex Padilla	Author	This bill would authorize each county office of education to create an educational program to provide employment-related services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other disabilities or special needs	Held in Assembly Suspense File

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