MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 5, 2010

TO: All Members of the Delaware State Senate and House of Representatives

FROM: Ms. Daniese McMullin-Powell
Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: S.B. 204 [Autism Spectrum Disorders Insurance Coverage]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed S.B. 204 which provides insurance coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. SCPD strongly supports the proposed legislation since, consistent with the attachments, the advantages of early identification and intervention for persons with autism spectrum disorders are well documented. However, Council would prefer that it also cover individuals with intermittent high risk behaviors that put them at risk of hospitalization and/or institutionalization.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our position on the proposed legislation.

cc: Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council