

Rep. David Valadao
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Susie Lee
365 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Mike Lawler
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Derek Kilmer
1226 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Marc Molinaro
1207 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Valadao, Lee, Kilmer, Blunt Rochester, Lawler, and Molinaro:

The Autism Society of America writes to thank you for introducing the Eliminating Marriage Penalty in SSI Act (EMPSA). This bill would amend the Social Security Act to ensure that the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) income of adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD), such as Autism, will not be reduced because of marriage. Currently for individuals who receive SSI, marriage between two SSI beneficiaries results in a “marriage penalty”, a 25% reduction in the asset limit for SSI eligibility. This disincentivizes individuals with IDD to get married which is unfair.

The Autism Society is the nation’s oldest and largest grassroots organization representing children and adults with autism. One of our legislative priorities is to promote equity among rights and opportunities for the Autism community. This bill will allow individuals with IDD to marry without worry of their benefits being affected.

The Autism Society of America pledges its support to help move this bill quickly through this Session of Congress.

Please contact Kim Musheno, Vice President of Public Policy at the Autism Society of America (kmusheno@autism-society.org or 800-328-8476) if you have any questions or to follow up on this letter.

Sincerely,





Autism Society of America
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Rockville, Maryland 20852

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