

Senate Adopts ANCOR Resolution Designating DSP Recognition Week
ANCOR extends thanks to the following state team leaders

The U.S. Senate unanimously adopted a resolution July 14, **designating the week beginning September 8, 2008, as [“National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week” \(S. Res. 613\)](#)**. ANCOR began working on the resolution this past spring with Senator Ben Nelson (D-NE) as a means of recognizing the important contribution that DSPs make in every community throughout the nation.

The designation of DSP Recognition Week coincides with our 2008 Governmental Activities Seminar and DSPs to DC activities, September 7-9 in Washington, D.C. S. Res.613 provides a specific opportunity for ANCOR members and their DSPs to visit with their two Senators and discuss the role they play every day in enhancing the lives of people with disabilities of all ages and the challenges in recruiting and retaining a competitively paid, quality workforce.

Ten other Senators joined with Senator Nelson as original cosponsors in introducing S. Res. 613: Finance Chairman **Baucus** (D-MT), **Bingaman** (D-NM), **Brown** (D-OH), **Bunning** (R-KY), **Collins** (R-ME), **Dodd** (D-CT), **Hatch** (R-UT), **Kerry** (D-MA), **Roberts** (R-KS), and **Smith** (R-OR). ANCOR appreciates the leadership of all these Senators on this issue.

A number of ANCOR providers were called upon to enlist their Senators as original cosponsors. ANCOR is grateful for their help in obtaining such great results. Special thanks are owed to **Rich Carman** of Mosaic for his work with Senator Nelson’s office. In addition to ANCOR’s National Advocacy Campaign’s consultant, Barnaby Harkins, and ANCOR staff, the following individuals reached out to targeted Senate offices to cosponsor the resolution. In doing, these ANCOR members continued to build upon their federal relationships in shaping public policy.

ANCOR Extends Thanks to the Following State Team Leaders

Montana: Dale Boespflug, Graydon Moll; **New Mexico:** Anna Otero Hatanaka, Rich Carman; **Ohio:** Mark Davis, Than Johnson; **Kentucky:** Kelley Abell, Ken Lovan, Daryn Demeritt; Jim Richardson; Clyde Lang; **Maine:** Mary Lou Dyer, Bonnie-Jean Brooks, Jim Pierce, Ron Langworthy, Peter Kowalski; **Connecticut:** Rich Carman; **Utah:** Sarah Magazine, Rich Carman; **Massachusetts:** Sarah Magazine; Dwight Robson; Gary Blumenthal, Diane Iagulli; **Arkansas:** Rita Taunton; Cindy Mahan, Patti McManus, Pattie Smith; **Iowa:** John Severtson, Rod Braun; Chris Sparks; Sarah Magazine; **Kansas:** Tom Laing, Brenda Maxey; **Oregon:** Tim Kral; Sarah Magazine; **Maryland:** Marty Lampner, Diane McComb; **Pennsylvania:** Shirley Walker, Gabriella Sedor, Charlie Hooker; **Texas:** Carole Smith; Daryn Demeritt; **Wyoming:** Jeff Gardner, Sean Griffin.

Please make sure you have thanked your Senators for adopting this resolution! An [alert on S. 613](#) and sample “thank you” letter was sent July 16 to ANCOR members urging providers and their DSPs to send a letter of appreciation to both of their Senators for adopting the resolution.