

Good Morning,

As educators and caring human beings our ultimate goal is to help mentally, physically and medically challenged children to learn daily life skills, manage interactions, gain a sense of accomplishment, and feel a sense of positive self worth. We want them to become as independent as they can possibly be. Our jobs are never the less extremely challenging and stressful on many levels.

We are subjected on a daily basis to possible bites, kicks, scratches, foul smells, verbal abuse, irate parents, disrespectful leaders, mental stress and physical injuries. Several of us in fact have suffered injuries from students requiring medical attention, counseling and recovery time. Stress is a constant companion.

In addition my job has been threatened with termination if I were not to carry out certain tasks that I am not able to perform. Medical documentation was provided and ignored by those in charge.

Why do I do my job? Because I care! Because a smile or laughter, or perhaps a moment of freedom for a child who is enduring the pain and misfortunes from an unfair life deserves all of the empathy, encouragement, and hope I can give. It is the least we can do for the less fortunate. God bless them!

Can our working environment be safer and healthier for us and the children? Most certainly yes! We demand that it be! It is a small thing to ask. We welcome your visit; you will leave a different person.

Your consideration of HB 3318 is appreciated, have a great day.

Para Professional  
Baker School District