



Southwest
Autism
Research &
Resource
Center

June 30, 2006

The Honorable Linda Gray
Arizona Senate
1700 W. Washington St., Room 309
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Senator Gray:

Thank you for your support and guidance during this year's legislative session, which resulted in the passage of Senate Bill 1355 and the final appropriation of \$7.1 million for autism research. This funding will allow the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) and the Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC) to significantly advance the field of autism research in Arizona by conducting two major genetic research projects.

For more than three years, SARRC has worked diligently with TGen to develop our scientific protocol, and we have invested unrestricted funds to advance these efforts. Our goal is to maximize the return on investment to the children and families in Arizona whose lives are impacted by autism and also to maximize the State's investment by leveraging national resources, bringing new opportunities to Arizona and advancing new discoveries.

SB 1355 has sent a message to Arizonans and the rest of the country that our State is taking a lead in the fight against autism. In fact, several of the national leading autism research organizations, including Autism Speaks, Cure Autism Now and the Organization for Autism Research, have already expressed interest in working with us to further a national research agenda.

We are grateful for your support and your leadership to advance autism research and other bioscience initiatives within our great state!

Best regards,

Handwritten signature of Denise D. Resnik in blue ink.

Denise D. Resnik
Co-founder & Board Chairman

Handwritten signature of Michael Sklar in blue ink.

Michael Sklar
Board Vice Chairman

Handwritten signature of Lisa Glow in blue ink.

Lisa Glow
President & CEO

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