

Stay Informed and Take Action

Members are encouraged to stay informed about these developments and consider contacting their state legislators to express support for Senate Bill S4769. Advocacy from constituents plays a critical role in shaping disability policy and ensuring these protections remain strong.



A recent meeting of the New Jersey Legislative Disability Caucus featured remarks from Mr. Aronsohn reflecting on his tenure, as well as discussion of Senator Corrado's bill and Congressman Kean's federal efforts. We encourage members to view the recording for additional context.

Helpful resources:

Recording of Meeting - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RHz-zrSWr7A&t=1124s>

Senator Corrado's bill - <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2024/S4769>

NJ Legislative Roster - <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster>

🔔 ACTION ALERT: Support READI for Disasters Act 🔔

The READI for Disasters Act has just been reintroduced in Congress — and we need your voice now. Disabled people and older adults are disproportionately harmed in disasters, not because of disability, but because emergency systems are inaccessible.

READI would change that by centering disabled voices, funding community-based and disability-led response, and building inclusive preparedness before the next disaster hits.

🔔 Take action today! Contact your members of Congress (<https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>) and ask them to co-sponsor the READI for Disasters Act and support disability-led disaster work year-round. *You do not have to be disabled to advocate for this important piece of legislation.

Disaster equity can't wait.

Thanks to our friends at The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies (<https://disasterstrategies.org/>) for their leadership on this.



“Your Voice Matters” Take Action Now - Join SBRN Advocacy”

Policy decisions are being made right now that directly affect individuals with spina bifida and the broader disability community. These decisions need informed, committed voices at the table—and that means you.

SBRN is actively building its advocacy network and committee to respond to policy changes, leadership transitions, and legislative opportunities at both the state and federal levels. Whether you can give a little time or are ready to step into a leadership role, your participation matters.

We invite you to take part in SBRN’s advocacy efforts and help elevate the voices of individuals with spina bifida and other disabilities. Our **Advocacy Interest Form** allows you to choose the level of engagement that best fits your interest and availability.

Before completing the form, please note that you will be asked to select one of the following advocacy roles:

- **Learn More / Stay Informed**

Receive advocacy updates, action alerts, and invitations to educational opportunities. No time commitment required.

- **Occasional Advocacy Support**

Participate in advocacy activities as opportunities arise, such as campaigns, outreach, or events, with flexible involvement.

- ⇒ **Advocacy Committee Member**

Express interest in a formal leadership role supporting SBRN’s advocacy strategy and outreach. Committee membership requires an application and Board approval. **The committee is being formed this quarter.**

This role requires an application and Board approval. Individuals selecting this option will be contacted by an SBRN team member to discuss next steps.

- ⇒ **Complete the Advocacy Interest Form – [Advocacy Interest Form](#)**

SBRN respects your privacy. Information collected through this form will be used solely to share advocacy updates, action alerts, and related communications.

Updated Billing Codes for Catheters

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), effective January 1, 2026, made updates to insurance billing codes for hydrophilic catheters. These updates help better identify catheters with a hydrophilic coating, which can reduce friction, improve comfort, and lower the risk of infection.

What does this mean for you? If you currently use a hydrophilic-coated catheter, your healthcare provider may need to issue a new prescription that clearly specifies a hydrophilic-coated catheter, so it can be billed appropriately.

CMS has also made it easier for people with certain conditions—including spina bifida, spinal cord injury, or multiple sclerosis—to continue accessing medically necessary catheter supplies. Talk with your healthcare provider about what options are right for you.