PETITION

for Government Funding of Medically Prescribed Treatment for Jeremy Rodrigues

In view of the following facts,

1) Autism is a devastating neurological disorder that disrupts language development and social relationships. Psychiatrists now know autism is highly treatable with Lovaas Autism Treatment -- the most thoroughly researched and scientifically documented autism treatment known.

2) Existing BC Government approved programs offered by the BC Ministry for Children and Families have proven to be entirely ineffective for Jeremy's autism. His autism worsened while in Government approved programs.

3) The BC Government has refused to provide or fund scientifically validated Lovaas Autism Treatment for children despite full knowledge of the treatment's effectiveness against autism.

4) Physicians have prescribed and strongly endorse Lovaas Autism treatment for Jeremy Rodrigues. His parents have been providing Lovaas treatment at private expense since May, 1998, with remarkable success.

5) The BC Ministry for Children and Families has cut off all reimbursement for the cost of Jeremy's autism treatment -- deemed vital by Jeremy's doctors for his future well being and independence as a self sustaining adult.

We, the undersigned, as residents of British Columbia, urge the Ministry for Children and Families to reimburse the cost of medically prescribed autism treatment for Jeremy Rodrigues and all other children in BC who need effective, physician prescribed autism treatment.

Jeremy Rodrigues is worthy of treatment -- effective treatment for autism is his right; Jeremy Rodrigues does not yet speak; we are the voice on his behalf.

Signed	Name (please print)	Address	City/Town	Date

http://digital-web.net/featbc/penticton/