



JUNE, 2010

LIFER-LINE
THE LIFE SUPPORT ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

VOL.1 ISSUE 3

WE WORK FOR LIFERS

Life Support Alliance is a lobbying group working for the fair, unbiased consideration and granting of parole dates to suitable term-to-life prisoners in the California prison system. We are headquartered in Sacramento and are a constant presence in state Senate and Assembly offices, bringing the unheard voices and stories of term-to-life prisoners and their families to our legislators.

We cannot offer legal advice or representation, employment opportunities, re-entry services or letters to the BPH.

We are entirely self-funded and non-profit. We strive to answer all letters and correspondence from prisoners who write us; toward that end, if you are requesting newsletter or flier copies it aids us greatly if these requests are accompanied by SASEs. If you are unable to do so we will do our best to send you up to 3 single page copies of newsletters or fliers. We urge prisoners receiving our information via mail to share this information with others at their institutions.

Families and friends of prisoners can receive electronic copies of the newsletter and informational fliers by emailing us at lifesupportalliance@gmail.com. Additional information on issues and events is also available on our website, www.lifesupportalliance.org or find us on Facebook

REDUCING PRISON VISITING IS ILL-ADVISED AND COUNTER PRODUCTIVE

We have made our concerns and objections known to both the CDCR and the legislature on the CDCR's recently announced action in canceling visiting in all prisons the weekend of June 26 and 27. We fear this action, announced in response to budgetary issues, may be seen as a precedent to reduce prison visiting availability in the future.

Title 15 mandates a minimum number of hours "be made available" each week for visiting in prisons, but does not address the possibility of those hours being reduced due to long term "emergency" situations, in the event the Governor chooses to extend this fiscal emergency to include even more monetary cuts to Corrections.

One year ago the prison family community lost Friday visitation, which had been only recently restored in the most overcrowded prisons. At the time we were told Friday visits would be restored once the budgetary situation stabilized. That stabilization seems no closer now, one year later, than it did in July of 2009.

Prisoners and family members must be vigilant and vocal in letting both the CDCR and their respective legislators know loss of visiting time is unacceptable and counter productive. LSA urges you to join our efforts and write, call, email and/or FAX your concerns to the CDCR and your legislators using the following points in your argument:

- Suspension of visiting due to fiscal issues places the majority of the burden for reduction in expenses on the backs of prisoners and families
- Visiting is acknowledged to be the cornerstone of rehabilitation; to eliminate or severely reduce it makes a mockery of "rehabilitation" efforts or claims.