



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

CCD Financial Security Task Force Annual Report for 2017

Increasing Age Limit for ABLE Accounts

The Task Force maintained our position that any legislation to improve the ABLE program should include or follow an increase to the age of onset. We continued our work to forward legislation to increase the age of onset for ABLE accounts. The co-chairs met with the staff of Congressional champions and remained in contact throughout the year.

In partnership with the ABLE National Resource Center, the Task Force co-sponsored a legislative briefing to educate Congressional staff on the progress of the ABLE program and what improvements are still needed. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) greeted attendees at the beginning of the briefing.

ABLE to Work and Tax Reform

When the ABLE to Work and ABLE Financial Planning bills were included in the tax reform package, the Task Force met with Sen. Burr (R-NC) and Sen. Roberts (R-KS) staff to express our concern as to the unintended consequences of the provision. Co-chairs continued to educate Republican leadership on the possible dangerous impacts of the poorly written legislation. Task Force members also continued to educate CCD members and others working on disability rights about the potential consequences of the legislation to dispel misleading marketing by some Congressional members and advocacy groups.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Task Force will work to ensure passage of an amendment to the ABLE program to increase the age of onset of disability for eligibility for ABLE, following the implementation of the ABLE to Work and Financial Planning laws, and other improvements to the law. We will continue to monitor any potential impacts on people with disabilities from the recently passed tax reform legislation. The Task Force will continue to address public policy issues which could improve the financial security of individuals with disabilities.

CO-CHAIRS IN 2017:

Dara Baldwin, National Disability Rights Network

Marty Ford, The Arc of the United States

Susan Goodman, National Down Syndrome Congress

Sarah Meek, American Network of Community Options and Resources

Chris Rodriquez, National Disability Institute