

July 31, 2015

Hon. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott Ranking Member 1201 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Steny H. Hoyer House Democratic Whip 1705 Longworth House Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Frederica S. Wilson Member of Congress 208 Cannon House Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Janice D. Schakowsky Member of Congress 2367 Rayburn House Office Bldg. Washington, DC, 20515 Hon. Patty Murray Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Help, Education, Labor and Pensions 154 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Elizabeth Warren U.S. Senator 317 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Robert P. Casey U.S. Senator 393 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Richard Blumenthal U.S. Senator 706 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representatives Scott, Hoyer, Wilson and Schakowsky and Senators Murray, Warren, Casey and Blumenthal:

We write on behalf of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Rights Task Force to express our gratitude for the letter that you sent to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission raising civil rights concerns in response to the EEOC's proposed rule applying the ADA to workplace wellness programs. CCD is a coalition of national disability organizations working to promote national public policy that ensures the self-determination,

independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of our landmark civil rights law, the Americans with Disabilities Act, we thank you for standing up for the critical protections that the ADA provides to employees with disabilities. The disability community raised concerns about the EEOC's proposed rule similar to those that you raised; the proposed rule would undermine the civil rights and employment prospects of people with disabilities. While the ADA has been enormously important in opening doors for people with disabilities to participate in all aspects of American society, much work remains to be done to realize the full promise of the ADA, including with respect to employment of people with disabilities. It is critical that we promote employment opportunities rather than create new obstacles to employment. Thank you for standing with the disability community on this issue.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Mathis

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

Mara Baldwin

Lemfa Motros

Mark Richert

American Foundation for the Blind

L. Dara Baldwin

National Disability Rights Network

Sandy Finucane

Epilepsy Foundation of America

a. K. Firecare

Samantha Crane

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Co-chairs, CCD Rights Task Force