



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

CCD Rights Task Force – 2010 Report

In 2010, the Rights Task Force worked extensively to educate the Obama administration on the effective implementation and interpretation of federal disability rights laws.

The Rights Task Force, together with the Employment Task Force, wrote to the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) proposing improvements to the regulations under Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act (affirmative action for people with disabilities by federal contractors). Subsequently, OFCCP issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposing improvements to the Section 503 regulations, including some of the improvements the Task Force recommended. The Task Force submitted formal comments making recommendations for strong regulations and implementation and we await issuance of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in 2011. The Rights Task Force met with the head of the Office for Civil Rights at HHS, Gina Verdugo, to discuss their disability rights enforcement plans and priorities.

The Task Force met with EEOC Commissioners Chai Feldblum and Vicki Lipnic regarding issuance of regulations under the ADA Amendments Act. Task Force members discussed various issues raised by the Commissioners and emphasized the need for regulations.

The Task Force wrote to and met with the staff of the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights to discuss enforcement priorities, including segregation of students with disabilities, bullying, and accessible technology.

The Task Force wrote twice to legislative leaders to support confirmation of the appointments of EEOC Commissioners and the EEOC General Counsel. In December, the Commissioners and General Counsel were confirmed.

The Task Force wrote to President Obama to support nomination of a strong voice for disability rights to replace Supreme Court Justice Stevens. Members of the Task Force conducted extensive research into the background of Justice Elena Kagan as it relates to disability issues. This research provided the basis for CCD member organizations to decide whether to support her confirmation.

Members of the Rights Task Force participated in a House Judiciary Committee hearing on ADA requirements for websites.

Members of the Task Force met several times with Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Tom Perez to discuss DOJ enforcement priorities.

Members of the Task Force have participated in drafting model responses to the Department of Justice ADA Advance Notices of Proposed Rulemaking on websites, furniture and equipment, movie captioning, and 9-1-1 services. Comments are due this month.