



## **Report of the CCD Task Force on Telecommunications and Technology**

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CCD Telecom & Tech members stayed connected through the year and hope to establish regular meetings in 2009. Members' interests are diverse and include availability and accessibility of telecommunications and both mainstream and assistive technologies.

### 2008 Task Force Activities included:

1. Representation on the Section 508 "Refresh of Guidelines" committee, the Telecommunications & Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Committee (TEITAC), that led to a set of recommendations to the U.S. Access Board.
2. Participation as affiliates with the Coalition of Organizations for Accessible Technology (COAT), a coalition that secured a House hearing that led to introduction of H.R. 6320, the "21<sup>st</sup> Century Communications & Video Accessibility Act," to update the Communications Act mandates for people with disabilities.
3. Providing recommendations to the new Administration's Transition Team on priorities for technology for people with disabilities.

### Major 2009 expected goals and priorities include:

- a. Ensuring passage of any legislative measures that will update the Communications Act of 1934 to address the objectives of H.R. 6320.
- b. Ensuring the assistive technology act is properly re-authorized and appropriated.
- c. Ensuring technology within education initiatives addresses concerns of all students with disabilities, including sensory disabilities such as hearing and vision disability.
- d. National broadband policy development (e.g., deployment) account for accessibility and usability needs of persons with disabilities.