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**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13793  
**Folder ID Number:** 13793-004

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**Folder Title:**  
Americans with Disabilities 1/13/92 [OA 8483]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

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—JANUARY 12—

Zodiac sign for the day: Capricorn, the goat.  
Zodiac birthstone for the day: Ruby (turquoise, zircon).

The day in history:

- 1773—First U.S. museum established in Charleston, S.C.
- 1932—Mrs. Hattie Caraway of Arkansas became first elected woman U.S. Senator.
- 1935—Amelia Earhart Putnam flew solo across Pacific. (See January 11.)
- 1945—U.S. Navy carrier force destroyed 41 Japanese ships in World War II Battle of South China Sea.
- 1956—FBI announced Brink's robbery of January 17, 1950 had been solved.
- 1970—Biafra surrendered to Nigeria, ending Civil War.

The day's birthdays:

Artist John Singer Sargent 1856, Florence, Italy; writer Jack London 1876, San Francisco; author Charles Perrault 1628, Paris; statesman Edmund Burke 1729, Dublin; educator Johann H. Pestalozzi 1746, Zurich, Switzerland; soldier Marshal Joffre 1852, Rivesaltes, France; Black leader James Farmer 1920, Marshall, Texas.

Quotation of the day:

"Poverty has many roots, but the tap root is ignorance."—Lyndon B. Johnson, January 12, 1965

"There are, in every age, new errors to be rectified, and new prejudices to be opposed."—Samuel Johnson, January 12, 1751

—JANUARY 13—

Stephen Foster Memorial Day—commemorates death of composer in 1864 in Bellevue Hospital, New York, N.Y.

Zodiac sign for the day: Capricorn, the goat.  
Zodiac birthstone for the day: Ruby (turquoise, zircon).

The day in history:

- 1898—*J'accuse*, Emile Zola's classic defense of Captain Alfred Dreyfus, was published in Paris.
- 1935—Plebiscite in Saar voted to rejoin Germany.

Greatest civil rights battles of the decade

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*July 26 / Administration of George Bush, 1991*

**Message to the Congress Transmitting  
the Poland-United States Fishery  
Agreement**  
*July 26, 1991*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-265; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), I transmit herewith the Agreement between the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Poland Amending and Extending the Agreement of August 1, 1985, Concerning Fisheries off the Coasts of the United States. The agreement which was effected by exchange of notes at Washington on January 24 and June 12, 1991, copies of which are attached, extends the 1985 agreement for an additional 2 years and 6 months, from July 1, 1991, to December 31, 1993. The exchange of notes together with the 1985 agreement constitute a governing international fishery agreement within the requirements of section 201(c) of the Act. The exchange of notes also amends the 1985 agreement to incorporate the latest changes in U.S. law and policy into the agreement.

I urge that the Congress give favorable consideration to this agreement at an early date.

George Bush

The White House,  
July 26, 1991.

**Message to the Congress Transmitting  
the Republic of Korea-United States  
Fishery Agreement**  
*July 26, 1991*

*To The Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-265; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), I transmit herewith the Agreement between the Governments of the United States of America and the Republic of Korea Amending and Extending the Agreement of July 26, 1982, Concerning Fisheries off the Coasts of the United States, as amended and extended. The agreement,

which was effected by exchange of notes at Washington on May 29 and June 19, 1991, copies of which are attached, extends the 1982 agreement for an additional 2 years and 6 months, from July 1, 1991, to December 31, 1993. The exchange of notes together with the 1982 agreement constitute a governing international fishery agreement within the requirements of section 201(c) of the Act. The exchange of notes also amends the 1982 agreement to incorporate the latest changes in U.S. law and policy into the agreement.

I urge that the Congress give favorable consideration to this agreement at an early date.

George Bush

The White House,  
July 26, 1991.

**Remarks Commemorating the First  
Anniversary of the Signing of the  
Americans With Disabilities Act of  
1990**

*July 26, 1991*

First, may I greet the distinguished Members of Congress here in the front rows, thank them for coming, thank them for their interest in the passage of this important legislation we're here to celebrate today, but also in their interest in following up on it. May I greet, also, the Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, and our Secretary of HHS Lou Sullivan and the Vice President, of course. He and I welcome you to the Rose Garden. And may I salute the other guests that are with us. And a special thanks today to the men and women from our business community. American corporations, you see, are a vital part of this team, and your support of the ADA is critical to its success.

One year ago, I stood over there—many of you present—on the South Lawn. And I will never—literally, never—forget that sight or certainly the emotional feeling I felt on that day. Thousands of people from across the country had come to celebrate the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, one of the most comprehensive

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civil rights bills in the history of this coun-  
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And while people felt a justifiable sense  
of triumph last year, you also could see a  
feeling of eager impatience. After all, the  
signing of the ADA didn't mark the end of  
a long struggle; it marked, really, a begin-  
ning.

Some of you here today joined me on the  
South Lawn, as I mentioned, a year ago,  
and we've made tremendous advances since  
that ceremony. We've introduced changes  
that will transform people's worlds. The  
ADA has also helped us—all of us—to un-  
derstand a little bit more about ourselves. It  
reminds us that along with the privilege of  
being an American comes a duty: to recog-  
nize and defend the rights of every Ameri-  
can.

This bill does more than make the Ameri-  
can dream of equality a reality for 43 mil-  
lion Americans with disabilities. It offers, in  
a sense, fresh testimony to our Nation's  
greatness. It demonstrates how we can ad-  
vance the cause of civil rights. It shows  
what can happen when we work together,  
drawing upon the fundamental decency of  
the American people.

The quest for civil rights is not a zero-  
sum game. It shouldn't mean advancing  
some at the expense of others. The quest  
for civil rights is a quest for individual  
rights and equal opportunity and it's a cru-  
sade to throw open the doors of opportunity  
and tear down the walls of bigotry.

The ADA works because it calls upon the  
best in the American people, and then  
Americans respond. It works because it em-  
bodies what must be at the heart of all civil  
rights struggles: the spirit of inclusiveness,  
the devotion to individual rights and equal  
opportunity. That devotion runs deep in  
our Nation. We are the land of opportunity  
and always have been.

Our Constitution and our courts pledge  
equal protection under the law. But equally  
important, our people believe in legal  
equality—and many try to broaden oppor-  
tunity in little ways, by reaching out to ca-  
pable people and giving them a chance—  
giving them a fair chance.

America must be a country where the  
sons and daughters of poverty have the  
same grasp of the American dream as the  
children of privilege. And it must be a land

where a child can overcome any obstacle  
and fulfill his or her own potential.

We see this promise fulfilled by a man I  
presented to this Nation 4 weeks ago. And  
we can be proud to live in a country whose  
highest Court will include a man who un-  
derstands the importance of basic American  
values: tolerance, industry, and decency.  
And I'm speaking, of course, of my nominee  
to the Court, Clarence Thomas.

While Judge Thomas was at the EEOC,  
he compiled an excellent record on disabili-  
ty issues, with which I hope all of you are  
familiar. But his life illustrates the principle  
that inspires all civil rights bills: the princi-  
ple that we must throw open the doors of  
opportunity to everyone. And this spirit  
should guide us as we pursue all civil rights  
legislation, for our greatest strength lies in  
our ability to work together and honor the  
shared values we treasure.

We have worked together this last year.  
And in so doing, we've understood more  
fully just how much people with disabilities  
have to offer. We've demonstrated that  
social progress includes economic growth  
and that both play essential roles in the  
American dream. Businesses support the  
ADA because it gives everyone a chance to  
be productive in the workplace. It broadens  
our economic mainstream. It enables soci-  
ety to benefit from the wisdom, energy, and  
industry of people who want just one thing,  
a fair chance.

And while we've made a strong start, we  
have much to do. As long as the doors of  
opportunity are closed to even one Ameri-  
can we must keep working at it.

The passage of the ADA, the world's first  
declaration of equality for people with dis-  
abilities, made this country the internatio-  
nal leader on this human rights issue. And  
now the world is watching to see how we  
use this act, how we remove the physical  
barriers we've created and the social bar-  
riers that we've accepted. Our success or  
failure in keeping the promise of the ADA  
will affect the lives of hundreds of millions  
of people with disabilities, not just here in  
the United States but throughout the world.

Our challenges remain great, but our will  
is even greater. In America—the most gen-  
erous, optimistic Nation on the face of the  
Earth—we will not rest until every man

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and woman and child with a dream has a fair chance to realize it.

Most of this work will be done by individual Americans acting day by day to increase tolerance and understanding. But the ADA also required five Federal Agencies to come up with implementation regulation or guidelines. These regulations—relating to employment, public accommodation, transportation, and communications—are key to the full implementation of ADA. And so I'm proud to announce that most of these Federal regs will be issued today.

All guidelines required of the Department of Justice, the EEOC, the FCC are in final form, and those regarding transportation will be issued soon. I want to thank the people of the executive branch who have worked so hard to make the ADA a reality.

And in addition, today I'm issuing a memorandum to Federal Departments and Agencies. And it directs them to recruit people with disabilities as Federal employees and to ensure that Americans with disabilities have access to Federal programs. The Federal Government must serve as a model employer for the rest of the Nation.

And again, thank you all so very much for your work, for your dedication, and for your devotion and your steadfast faith and, to many here, for your inspiring example. And may God bless you all. And thank you very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:04 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.*

**Memorandum on Access for People With Disabilities to Federal Programs and Employment**

**July 26, 1991**

*Memorandum for the Heads of Departments and Agencies*

On July 26, 1990, I signed the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," and this Nation welcomed into the mainstream of life all of our fellow citizens with disabilities. As we move forward with the implementation of this landmark legislation, I ask

you to look at what you have done, what you currently are doing, and what your plans are for the future to ensure people with disabilities are not excluded from the mainstream.

Many of you have worked hard over the years to establish policies and initiatives to remove barriers that prevented people with disabilities from gaining access to programs and employment opportunities within the Federal Government.

You have removed architectural and physical barriers and provided people with disabilities access to Government facilities and buildings. You have also made real change in employment policies and in the nature of Federal jobs to recognize the talents and skills of people with disabilities. In 1990, people with disabilities represented 6.9 percent of the Federal work force while they represented 3.6 percent of the civilian work force.

However, there is still much work to be done. I want you to renew your efforts in this area and make a special pledge to do everything possible to ensure that people with disabilities have the opportunities they deserve. I want all Federal agencies to review their programs, policies, and practices to ensure that people with disabilities are included in Federal programs, that they are recruited as Federal employees, and that incentives for productivity are encouraged.

Also, I want you to share your experiences and success stories with the private sector so they can benefit from the lessons learned since the 1973 Rehabilitation Act was implemented within the Federal Government. The Federal Government must be a model for the rest of the country to ensure that people with disabilities are afforded opportunities to become full participants in our society. Recruitment, hiring, and career development must afford people with disabilities equal opportunities to achieve their highest potential and become contributing, productive members of the work force.

People with disabilities represent a tremendous pool of talent. They bring to their work diversity in skills and commitment, with a simple request in return—the chance to be a part of the mainstream of society.

Thank you all very, very much.

*Note: The President spoke at 1:35 p.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his*

*opening remarks, he referred to Secretary of Veterans Affairs Edward J. Derwinski and Richard W. Carlson, Associate Director for the Voice of America.*

### Appointment of Richard W. Porter as Special Assistant to the President and Executive Secretary for the Domestic Policy Council July 25, 1990

The President today announced the appointment of Richard W. Porter to be Special Assistant to the President and Executive Secretary for the Domestic Policy Council. Mr. Porter succeeds Kenneth P. Yale, who is assuming the position of Chief of Staff in the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President.

Since February 1989 Mr. Porter has been the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Review and Analysis at the Department of the Treasury. Prior to this he was an analyst and the chief writer on the domestic policy staff of Bush/Quayle '88. Mr. Porter also

served as a law clerk to Judge Richard A. Posner on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and worked as a lawyer/economist at Lexecon, Inc., a law and economics consulting firm in Chicago, IL.

Mr. Porter is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Middlebury College and received his law degree from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was awarded the John Olin Prize as the outstanding graduate in law and economics. Mr. Porter was born and raised in Mount Kisco, NY. He is married to the former Karen Louise Anderson of Barrington Hills, IL.

### Remarks on Signing the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 July 26, 1990

Evan, thank you so much. And welcome to every one of you, out there in this splendid scene of hope, spread across the South Lawn of the White House. I want to salute the Members of the United States Congress, the House and the Senate who are with us today—active participants in making this day come true. This is, indeed, an incredible day—especially for the thousands of people across the Nation who have given so much of their time, their vision, and their courage to see this act become a reality.

You know, I started trying to put together a list of all the people who should be mentioned today. But when the list started looking a little longer than the Senate testimony for the bill, I decided I better give up, or that we'd never get out of here before sunset. So, even though so many de-

serve credit, I will single out but a tiny handful. And I take those who have guided me personally over the years: of course, my friends Evan Kemp and Justin Dart, up here on the platform with me; and of course—I hope you'll forgive me for also saying a special word of thanks to two from the White House, but again, this is personal, so I don't want to offend those omitted—two from the White House, Boyden Gray and Bill Roper, who labored long and hard. And I want to thank Sandy Parrino, of course, for her leadership. And I again—it is very risky with all these Members of Congress here who worked so hard, but I can say on a very personal basis, Bob Dole has inspired me.

This is an immensely important day, a day that belongs to all of you. Everywhere I

look, I see people who have dedicated themselves to making sure that this day would come to pass: my friends from Congress, as I say, who worked so diligently with the best interest of all at heart, Democrats and Republicans; members of this administration—and I'm pleased to see so many top officials and members of my Cabinet here today who brought their caring and expertise to this fight; and then, the organizations—so many dedicated organizations for people with disabilities, who gave their time and their strength; and perhaps most of all, everyone out there and others—across the breadth of this nation are 43 million Americans with disabilities. You have made this happen. All of you have made this happen. To all of you, I just want to say your triumph is that your bill will now be law, and that this day belongs to you. On behalf of our nation, thank you very, very much.

Three weeks ago we celebrated our nation's Independence Day. Today we're here to rejoice in and celebrate another "independence day," one that is long overdue. With today's signing of the landmark Americans for Disabilities Act, every man, woman, and child with a disability can now pass through once-closed doors into a bright new era of equality, independence, and freedom. As I look around at all these joyous faces, I remember clearly how many years of dedicated commitment have gone into making this historic new civil rights act a reality. It's been the work of a true coalition, a strong and inspiring coalition of people who have shared both a dream and a passionate determination to make that dream come true. It's been a coalition in the finest spirit—a joining of Democrats and Republicans, of the legislative and the executive branches, of Federal and State agencies, of public officials and private citizens, of people with disabilities and without.

This historic act is the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities—the first. Its passage has made the United States the international leader on this human rights issue. Already, leaders of several other countries, including Sweden, Japan, the Soviet Union, and all 12 members of the EEC, have an-

nounced that they hope to enact now similar legislation.

Our success with this act proves that we are keeping faith with the spirit of our courageous forefathers who wrote in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." These words have been our guide for more than two centuries as we've labored to form our more perfect union. But tragically, for too many Americans, the blessings of liberty have been limited or even denied. The Civil Rights Act of '64 took a bold step towards righting that wrong. But the stark fact remained that people with disabilities were still victims of segregation and discrimination, and this was intolerable. Today's legislation brings us closer to that day when no Americans will ever again be deprived of their basic guarantee of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

This act is powerful in its simplicity. It will ensure that people with disabilities are given the basic guarantees for which they have worked so long and so hard: independence, freedom of choice, control of their lives, the opportunity to blend fully and equally into the rich mosaic of the American mainstream. Legally, it will provide our disabled community with a powerful expansion of protections and then basic civil rights. It will guarantee fair and just access to the fruits of American life which we all must be able to enjoy. And then, specifically, first the ADA ensures that employers covered by the act cannot discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Second, the ADA ensures access to public accommodations such as restaurants, hotels, shopping centers, and offices. And third, the ADA ensures expanded access to transportation services. And fourth, the ADA ensures equivalent telephone services for people with speech or hearing impediments.

These provisions mean so much to so many. To one brave girl in particular, they will mean the world. Lisa Carl, a young Washington State woman with cerebral palsy, who I'm told is with us today, now

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proves that we spirit of our cour- te in the Decla- We hold these at all men are e endowed by in unalienable been our guide es as we've la- fect union. But Americans, the een limited or hts Act of '64 righting that remained that still victims of n, and this was ion brings us Americans will heir basic guar- pursuit of hap-

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, much to so articular, they Carl, a young with cerebral us today, now

will always be admitted to her hometown theater. Lisa, you might not have been welcome at your theater, but I'll tell you—welcome to the White House. We're glad you're here. The ADA is a dramatic renewal not only for those with disabilities but for all of us, because along with the precious privilege of being an American comes a sacred duty to ensure that every other American's rights are also guaranteed.

Together, we must remove the physical barriers that we have created and the social barriers that we have accepted. For ours will never be a truly prosperous nation until all within it prosper. For inspiration, we need look no further than our own neighbors. With us in that wonderful crowd out there are people representing 18 of the daily Points of Light that I've named for their extraordinary involvement with the disabled community. We applaud you and your shining example. Thank you for your leadership for all that are here today.

Now, let me just tell you a wonderful story, a story about children already working in the spirit of the ADA—a story that really touched me. Across the Nation, some 10,000 youngsters with disabilities are part of Little League's Challenger Division. Their teams play just like others, but—and this is the most remarkable part—as they play, at their sides are volunteer buddies from conventional Little League teams. All of these players work together. They team up to wheel around the bases and to field grounders together and, most of all, just to play and become friends. We must let these children be our guides and inspiration.

I also want to say a special word to our friends in the business community. You have in your hands the key to the success of this act, for you can unlock a splendid resource of untapped human potential that, when freed, will enrich us all. I know there have been concerns that the ADA may be vague or costly, or may lead endlessly to litigation. But I want to reassure you right now that my administration and the United States Congress have carefully crafted this Act. We've all been determined to ensure that it gives flexibility, particularly in terms of the timetable of implementation, and we've been committed to containing the costs that may be incurred.

This act does something important for American business, though—and remember this: You've called for new sources of workers. Well, many of our fellow citizens with disabilities are unemployed. They want to work, and they can work, and this is a tremendous pool of people. And remember, this is a tremendous pool of people who will bring to jobs diversity, loyalty, proven low turnover rate, and only one request: the chance to prove themselves. And when you add together Federal, State, local, and private funds, it costs almost \$200 billion annually to support Americans with disabilities—in effect, to keep them dependent. Well, when given the opportunity to be independent, they will move proudly into the economic mainstream of American life, and that's what this legislation is all about.

Our problems are large, but our unified heart is larger. Our challenges are great, but our will is greater. And in our America, the most generous, optimistic nation on the face of the Earth, we must not and will not rest until every man and woman with a dream has the means to achieve it.

And today, America welcomes into the mainstream of life all of our fellow citizens with disabilities. We embrace you for your abilities and for your disabilities, for our similarities and indeed for our differences, for your past courage and your future dreams. Last year, we celebrated a victory of international freedom. Even the strongest person couldn't scale the Berlin Wall to gain the elusive promise of independence that lay just beyond. And so, together we rejoiced when that barrier fell.

And now I sign legislation which takes a sledgehammer to another wall, one which has for too many generations separated Americans with disabilities from the freedom they could glimpse, but not grasp. Once again, we rejoice as this barrier falls for claiming together we will not accept, we will not excuse, we will not tolerate discrimination in America.

With, again, great thanks to the Members of the United States Senate, leaders of whom are here today, and those who worked so tirelessly for this legislation on both sides of the aisles. And to those Members of the House of Representatives with

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us here today, Democrats and Republicans as well, I salute you. And on your behalf, as well as the behalf of this entire country, I now lift my pen to sign this Americans with Disabilities Act and say: Let the shameful wall of exclusion finally come tumbling down. God bless you all.

*Note: The President spoke at 10:11 a.m. on the South Lawn of the White House. In his opening remarks, he referred to Evan Kemp, Chairman of the Equal Opportunity*

*Employment Commission; Justin Dart, Chairman of the President's Committee for Employment of People With Disabilities; C. Boyden Gray, Counsel to the President; William L. Roper, Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and Director of the Office of Policy Development; Sandy Parrino, chairperson of the National Council of Disabilities; and Robert Dole, Senate Republican leader. S. 933, approved July 26, was assigned Public Law No. 101-336.*

## Statement on Signing the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 July 26, 1990

Today, I am signing S. 933, the "Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990." In this extraordinary year, we have seen our own Declaration of Independence inspire the march of freedom throughout Eastern Europe. It is altogether fitting that the American people have once again given clear expression to our most basic ideals of freedom and equality. The Americans with Disabilities Act represents the full flowering of our democratic principles, and it gives me great pleasure to sign it into law today.

In 1986, on behalf of President Reagan, I personally accepted a report from the National Council on Disability entitled "Toward Independence." In that report, the National Council recommended the enactment of comprehensive legislation to ban discrimination against persons with disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is such legislation. It promises to open up all aspects of American life to individuals with disabilities—employment opportunities, government services, public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications.

This legislation is comprehensive because the barriers faced by individuals with disabilities are wide-ranging. Existing laws and regulations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 have been effective with respect to the Federal Government, its contractors, and the recipients of Federal funds. However, they have left broad areas of American

life untouched or inadequately addressed. Many of our young people, who have benefited from the equal educational opportunity guaranteed under the Rehabilitation Act and the Education of the Handicapped Act, have found themselves on graduation day still shut out of the mainstream of American life. They have faced persistent discrimination in the workplace and barriers posed by inaccessible public transportation, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

Fears that the ADA is too vague or too costly and will lead to an explosion of litigation are misplaced. The Administration worked closely with the Congress to ensure that, wherever possible, existing language and standards from the Rehabilitation Act were incorporated into the ADA. The Rehabilitation Act standards are already familiar to large segments of the private sector that are either Federal contractors or recipients of Federal funds. Because the Rehabilitation Act was enacted 17 years ago, there is already an extensive body of law interpreting the requirements of that Act. Employers can turn to these interpretations for guidance on how to meet their obligations under the ADA.

The Administration and the Congress have carefully crafted the ADA to give the business community the flexibility to meet the requirements of the Act without incurring undue costs. Cost may be taken into account in determining how an employee is

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"reasonably accommodated," whether the removal of a barrier is "readily achievable," or whether the provision of a particular auxiliary aid would result in an "undue burden." The ADA's most rigorous access requirements are reserved for new construction where the added costs of accessible features are minimal in relation to overall construction costs. An elevator exemption is provided for many buildings.

The careful balance struck between the rights of individuals with disabilities and the legitimate interests of business is shown in the various phase-in provisions in the ADA. For example, the employment provisions take effect 2 years from today for employers of 25 or more employees. Four years from today that coverage will be extended to employers with 15-24 employees. These phase-in periods and effective dates will permit adequate time for businesses to become acquainted with the ADA's requirements and to take the necessary steps to achieve compliance.

The ADA recognizes the necessity of educating the public about its rights and responsibilities under the Act. Under the ADA, the Attorney General will oversee Government-wide technical assistance activities. The Department of Justice will consult with the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Department of Transportation, the Federal Communications Commission, the National Council on Disability, and the President's

Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, among others, in the effort. We will involve trade associations, advocacy groups, and other similar organizations that have existing lines of communications with covered entities and persons with disabilities. The participation of these organizations is a key element in assuring the success of the technical assistance effort.

In signing this landmark bill, I pledge the full support of my Administration for the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is a great honor to preside over the implementation of the responsibilities conferred on the executive branch by this Act. I pledge that we will fulfill those responsibilities efficiently and vigorously.

The Americans with Disabilities Act presents us all with an historic opportunity. It signals the end to the unjustified segregation and exclusion of persons with disabilities from the mainstream of American life. As the Declaration of Independence has been a beacon for people all over the world seeking freedom, it is my hope that the Americans with Disabilities Act will likewise come to be a model for the choices and opportunities of future generations around the world.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,  
July 26, 1990.

*Note: S. 933, approved July 26, was assigned Public Law No. 101-336.*

### Appointment of Michael P. Jackson as Special Assistant to the President and Executive Secretary for Cabinet Liaison

July 26, 1990

The President today announced the appointment of Michael P. Jackson to be Special Assistant to the President and Executive Secretary for Cabinet Liaison.

Since January 1990 Mr. Jackson has served as Executive Secretary for Cabinet Liaison at the White House. From January 1989 to December 1989, he served as Associate Director in the White House Office of

Cabinet Affairs. From 1986 to 1988, Mr. Jackson worked in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Education, first as Special Assistant to the Secretary and later as Special Assistant to the Secretary. Mr. Jackson has worked for the White House Conference on Small Business and the American Enterprise Institute and has taught political science at the University of

## REVERDY CASSIUS RANSOM

(1861 - 1959)

Flushing, Ohio

*Reverdy Ransom was a prominent bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He preached a social gospel advocating church leadership in community welfare and equal rights for Afro-Americans. A collection of his speeches, The Spirit of Freedom and Justice, was published in 1926.*

[434] [On slavery]:

It is no longer a question of property in human flesh or of the boundary lines of slavery. Today it is subtle, complex, involved. Then it struck men, now it strikes manhood; then it chained the intellect, now it removes the fetters from the mind but sets bounds as to the sphere of its exercise.

*The Martyrdom of John Brown*, Sermon delivered in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the hanging of John Brown. Faneuil Hall, Boston, Massachusetts  
[December 2, 1909]

[435] . . . we ask not that others bear our burden, but do not obstruct our pathway, and we will throw off our burdens as we run.

*Wendell Phillips*, Sermon, Plymouth Congregational Church, Brooklyn, New York [November 29, 1911]

[436] There is a strong effort to make a case against the Negro as "the sick man of America." His case has been diagnosed by doctors of every school of thought who have treated him for all the deadly diseases in the mental, moral, social, industrial and political catalogue, yet he continues to grow strong on the same meat and exercise that are the daily bread of all normal, healthy Americans. The trouble is not with the Negro, but with the physicians who are paranoics on the Negro question.

*Wendell Phillips*, Sermon, Plymouth Congregational Church, Brooklyn, New York [November 29, 1911]

[437] The white man held onto us in the days of slavery; we are holding onto him in the day of freedom, and we will not let him go until we are seated securely by his side in the full enjoyment of every right he holds as his most sacred heritage.

*Wendell Phillips*, Sermon, Plymouth Congregational Church, Brooklyn, New York [November 29, 1911]

1693 Mt. Etna volcano, Sicily, erupted  
 1757 Alexander Hamilton, American statesman, born  
 1775 Ivanovich Pugachev, pretender to the Russian throne as Czar Peter III, executed  
 1797 Francis Lightfoot Lee, signer of the Declaration of Independence, died  
 1805 Michigan became a U.S. territory  
 1808 Jean Gilbert Victor Fialin Persigny, French statesman, born  
 1815 Sir John MacDonald, first Premier of Canada, born  
 1822 Missouri adopted its state coat-of-arms  
 1843 Francis Scott Key, author of the "Star-Spangled Banner," died  
 1861 Alabama seceded from the Union  
 1866 London founded in the Bay of Biscay  
 1870 Alice H. Rice, author of Mrs. Wiggs and the Cabbage Patch, born  
 1872 Jean Gilbert Victor Fialin Persigny, French statesman, died  
 1880 Solar eclipse  
 1911 Hank Greenburg, baseball player, born  
 1912 Russ foundered in the Black Sea  
 1923 France and Belgium occupied the Ruhr Valley to enforce repatriation  
 1942 Japan declared war on Holland  
 1951 Charles W. Goddard, author of the movies Perils of Pauline, died  
 1965 Milan, Italy's cathedral completed  
 1968 Geos II satellite launched by the U.S.  
 1970 City Ice Skating Championships at Aurora, Illinois

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 January 12th  
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"Burning of the Clavie" at Burghead, Scotland  
 Feast of St. Benedict (Benet) Bishop  
 Feast of St. Tatiana  
 1519 AD Maximilian I, Holy Roman Emperor, died  
 1588 OS John Winthrop, first governor of Massachusetts, born  
 1632 Lazarites, or Congregation of Priests of the Mission, founded  
 1643 Warwick, Rhode Island, settled  
 1729 Edmund Burke, English statesman, born  
 1737 OS John Hancock, signer, born  
 1751 Frederick IV, King of Naples, born  
 1773 The Charlestown Museum, first in America, organized (S.C.)  
 1810 Ferdinand II, "King Bomba" of Sicily, born  
 1839 Iron first made with hard coal (Pennsylvania)  
 1856 John Singer Sargent, artist, born

- 1861 U.S. Naval Yard at Pensacola seized by Florida Confederates
- 1876 Jack London, novelist, born  
L'Athenne Louisianais, French literary society, founded in New Orleans
- 1897 Sir Isaac Pitman, shorthand inventor, died
- 1918 Distinguished Service Cross and Medal instituted (U.S.)
- 1919 Train wrecked in South Byron, New York
- 1929 Cascade Tunnel of the Great Northern Railroad first used by a train (U.S.)
- 1933 First woman elected to the U.S. Senate (Mrs. Hattie W. Caraway)
- 1950 Truculent, British submarine, sank in the Thames estuary
- 1952 Archbishop Stepinac of Yugoslavia made a Cardinal
- 1967 Northern Mexico devastated by a storm
- 1971 U.S.S.R. launched Cosmos 309 into space

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January 13th  
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- Plowman's Festival
- Ides of January
- New Years' Day Old Style (OS) or according to the Julian calendar
- 86 BC Gaius Marius, Roman general, died
- 533 AD St. Remi or Remigius, apostle of France, died
- 1327 Edward III proclaimed King of England
- 1330 Frederick III, King of Germany, died
- 1522 King Louis II of Hungary and Bohemia married Maria of Austria
- 1609 Augsburger Abendseitung, newspaper of Bavaria, Germany, founded, lasting till 1934
- 1649 The Bastille fell to the forces of the Fronde (Paris)
- 1733 James Oglethorpe and 120 colonists arrived in Charlestown, South Carolina, headed for Georgia
- 1785 Samuel Woodworth, poet, born
- 1794 Legislation passed to add more stars to the U.S. flag
- 1808 Salmon P. Chase, U.S. statesman, born
- 1834 Horatio Alger, author, born
- 1837 Almost all of the business district of St. Johns, New Brunswick, Canada, destroyed by fire
- 1857 Chicago Academy of Sciences founded
- Plate fulcrum railway track scale patented
- 1864 Stephen Foster, composer, died (Memorial Day in U.S.)
- 1874 T'ung-Chih became Emperor of China

--I'm very proud to receive this award. One of my grandkids was a little confused about it -- asked me what's so tough about getting a prize for being yourself -- but I won't get into the existential implications. I'm very proud, and I thank you.

--thousands of people had come from all across the country...represents everything that bipartisanship can and should be.

--the world's first comprehensive declaration of equality for people with disabilities -- the first. It's passage made the United States the international leader on this human rights issue.

--the most comprehensive civil rights bill in the history of the country...resisted the extremes of negligence and patronization...it reflects a conservative way of helping people -- a philosophy that helps people help themselves.

--on this day, back in 1751, the great writer Samuel Johnson wrote that "there are, in every age, new errors to be rectified and new prejudices to be opposed."

--the quest for civil rights is not a zero sum game -- as if there were a finite number of rights that groups must band together to seize as many as they can. Our founders thought of rights not as privileges <sup>granted</sup> given by man, but as truths ordained by God...self-evident truths of men created equal.

*- equality under the law but legal equality*

--more people into the workforce..we haven't a minute to lose or a soul waste

--the spirit of the ADA runs deep in the vein of American tradition: a belief in equal opportunity, a devotion to individual rights, and an ethic of inclusion.

--just as our constitution pledges equal protection under the law, so our conscience demands legal equality.

--Our government can make good laws, but it cannot make men good. It can ban cruel deeds, but it cannot banish unkind thoughts. Each citizen shares a responsibility for a gentler America.

--Americans disabled by ignorance, handicapped by prejudice.

--these proud citizens ask not that we carry them, but that we just give them a fair chance to carry their own weight.

--a great crusader in another civil rights struggle -- the struggle for African-American rights, put it this way: "...we ask not that others bear our burden, but do not obstruct our pathway, and we will throw them off as we run."

--Our country must be a place where we hand down the American dream to our children, preserved and polished, so that they can reinvent their own.

*ADA makes the Am Dream a reality for the 43 million Americans*

*one that broadens opportunity reaches out to our forgotten citizens & gives us a gain that's a gift to America.*

*next*  
*the*  
*↳*

--Soon I will be leaving this great office. I am grateful to all here, proud Americans who participated in one of its finest moments.

--companies support ADA because it's smart business. it broadens our economic mainstream, enabling society to benefit from the wisdom, energy, and industry of people who want just one thing: a fair chance. That Americans with disabilities are ready, willing, and yes able to pull their own weight.

--it's smart government: when you add together Federal State, local and private funds, it costs almost \$200 billion annually to support Americans with disabilities.

--world is watching us to see how we use this act to remove the physical barriers we've created and the social barriers we've accepted.