

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Public Liaison

Series/Staff Member: William White, Jr.

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 14204

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Radio Address - ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] 07/26/1996

Stack:

S

Row:

31

Section:

2

Shelf:

9

Position:

3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. list	Presidential Radio Address ADA 6th Anniversary; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (3 pages)	07/26/1996	b(6)
002. list	Presidential Radio Address ADA 6th Anniversary; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] (3 pages)	07/26/1996	b(6)
003. list	Presidential Radio Address ADA 6th Anniversary; RE: Personally Identifiable Information [partial] [duplicate of 002] (3 pages)	07/26/1996	b(6)

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Public Liaison
William White, Jr.
OA/Box Number: 14204

FOLDER TITLE:

Radio Address - ADA [Americans with Disabilities Act] 07/26/1996

2007-0143-F
db4566

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 18, 1996

I am pleased to join with all Americans in celebrating the sixth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I declared when I ran for President in 1992 that America must have a national disability policy based on three simple creeds: inclusion, independence, and empowerment. We must make sure that all Americans understand it is just as wrong to discriminate against someone because of a disability as it is to discriminate against someone because of race, gender, or religion. We must make sure that all Americans understand that excluding someone from full participation in society simply because of a disability is simply wrong.

The promise of the ADA -- and all other disability rights laws -- will never be fully realized until we rise to these challenges. To do that we must first make sure that the ADA is consistently and vigilantly enforced. My Administration has made vigorous enforcement of all laws protecting people with disabilities a top priority. And we will stay this course until all barriers against individuals with disabilities come down. Consistent with this commitment, my budget for 1997 proposes a 3.9 percent increase in the resources available to enforce the ADA. We are on the path to balancing the budget in seven years; funds are tight all across the government; but this is a national priority.

As we celebrate the sixth anniversary of the ADA, we must remember that a civil rights law alone will not achieve our goal of inclusion, independence, and empowerment for people with disabilities. That is why we passed the Family and Medical Leave Act -- and why I have proposed extending it so that employees can take time off for their children's or parents' routine medical visits.

And that is why I am committed to preserving our national guarantee of Medicaid coverage for people with disabilities. For over 30 years, Medicaid has been a lifesaver for millions of Americans. The Republican Congress sent me legislation to repeal that guarantee. I vetoed it last year, and I will veto it again if they send it to me again.

And we must strengthen the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. IDEA makes it possible for students with disabilities to take full advantage of the opportunities of the new global economy and the information revolution. I know how much IDEA means to the millions of students with disabilities and to their parents, and I strongly support it. Each of us must do whatever we can to expand opportunity and demand responsibility from all of our citizens. We can't afford to waste a single person as we go forward toward the twenty-first century. You can count on this Administration to do its part, and I know I can count on Americans across our great land to do theirs.

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**Presidential Radio Address
ADA 6th Anniversary
July 26, 1996**

1. Nancy Bloch
National Association of the Deaf

(b)(6) [001]

Ms. Bloch is a deaf woman recently appointed by the President to the U.S. Access Board. Nancy is the executive director at the National Association of the Deaf and has been an active disability rights advocate for over 15 years..

2. Lorraine Sheehan
The Arc

(b)(6)

Lorraine is a member of the Board of Directors at the Arc, a national organization that works on behalf of people with mental retardation. She is the past President of the Maryland Arc, and is a person with multiple sclerosis.

3. Justin Dart Jr.
Justice For All
DOB#
SS#

Justin Dart is co-founder of Justice for All and has travelled extensively throughout this country on behalf of people with disabilities. He has also played an active role in the President's reelection campaign.

4. Donna Sorkin

(b)(6)

Donna Sorkin is the Executive Director of the national organization, Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. She was appointed by the President to the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board in September of 1994..

5. Margaret "Muffi" Lavigne
United Cerebral Palsy

(b)(6)

Ms. Lavigne, a 25 year old UCON graduate, is currently working on her Political Science graduate degree at GWU. Ms. Lavigne also works at the national office of the United Cerebral Palsy Association as an information specialist.

6. Marca Bristo
National Council on Disability (NCD)

(b)(6)

Marca Bristo of Chicago, IL was nominated by the President to Chair the National Council on Disability (NCD). Marca Bristo, the president and CEO of Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago, is the first person with a disability to hold this position.

7. Lillian Pollo
National Council on Disability (NCD)

(b)(6)

Ms. Pollo of Miami, FL was appointed by the President to NCD. She is a secretary at the University of Miami, School of Medicine and also operates her own secretarial service.

8. Hughey Walker
National Council on Disability (NCD)

(b)(6)

Mr. Walker of Hemingway, SC is the former chairman of the Georgetown County Council. Mr. Walker was confirmed to be a member of the NCD in December of 1995.

Special Attendant, Not Part of Ceremony:
Pamela Walker (spouse of Hughey Walker)

(b)(6)

9. Ela Yazzie-King
National Council on Disability (NCD)

(b)(6)

Ms. Yazzie-King of Saint Michaels, AZ was confirmed by the Senate as a member of NCD in April of 1995. She is the regional team coordinator of the Indian Children's Program.

Special Attendant, Not Part of Ceremony:
Jessicka Yazzie-King (daughter of Ela Yazzie-King)

(b)(6)

10. Robert Holland

(b)(6)

Robert Holland lives with his daughter Rachel (below) in Sacramento, CA. Rachel was born with a developmental disability. Over the last several years, the Holland family has fought for the civil rights of children with disabilities and has worked in conjunction with the Administration to uphold provisions of IDEA, which enabled Rachel's full inclusion in the regular classroom.

11. Rachel Holland

(b)(6)

Rachel is the 14 year old daughter of Robert Holland (above) and has a developmental disability.

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Today, President Clinton receives a report from disability rights leaders titled, "Achieving Independence," on the Sixth Anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Presidential Radio Address
ADA 6th Anniversary
July 26, 1996**

DISABILITY COMMUNITY LEADERS

1. Justin Dart Jr.
Justice For All

(b)(6)

[002]

Justin Dart, a Republican who has served in the Reagan and Bush Administrations, is the statesman of the disability rights movement. Justin has been traveling around the country during the last several months meeting with disability activists and announcing his support for the President.

2. Robert Herman
Paralysed Veterans of America (PVA)

(b)(6)

Robert is the Advocacy Attorney for the PVA. The leadership of the PVA is in Chicago attending their Annual Convention. Jesse Brown delivered the keynote address for the PVA Convention on July 23rd.

3. Donna Sorkin
Self Help for Hard of Hearing

(b)(6)

Donna Sorkin is the Executive Director of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. She was appointed by the President to the U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance (Access) Board in September of 1994.

4. Margaret "Muffi" Lavigne
United Cerebral Palsy

(b)(6)

Muffi is 25 years old and works at the national office of the United Cerebral Palsy Association as an information specialist. Muffi is a University of Connecticut graduate and is currently working on her Political Science graduate degree at GWU.

5. Nancy Bloch
National Association of the Deaf

(b)(6)

Ms. Bloch is a deaf woman recently appointed by the President to the U.S. Access Board. Nancy is the executive director of the National Association of the Deaf and has been an active disability rights advocate for over 15 years.

6. Lorraine Sheehan
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(b)(6)

Lorraine is a member of the Board of Directors at the Arc, a national organization that works on behalf of people with mental retardation. She is the past president of the Maryland Arc, and is a person with multiple sclerosis.

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(b)(6)

Rachel is the 14 year old daughter of Robert Holland (above) and has a developmental disability. Rachel and her Dad participated in NCD's National Summit on Disability Policy.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 26, 1996

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ALEXIS HERMAN
 BILL WHITE

SUBJECT: ADA COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

July 26, 1996 marks the sixth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the most important day of the year to the 49 million Americans with disabilities. We thought you would be interested in the following summary of the Administration's activities to commemorate this occasion:

Presidential Radio Address: On Friday, July 26, you will recognize the ADA anniversary during the taping of the radio address. Twelve leaders from the disability rights community will attend the radio address.

Presidential ADA Video: The video message you taped earlier this month commemorating the ADA was distributed to 300 national disability rights activists and organizers, and will be shown at ADA celebrations around the country over the next several days.

ADA Conference Call: On July 24, Carol Rasco and Bill White (OPL) participated in a nationwide conference call to preview your video message and celebrate the ADA's birthday. Justin Dart organized the call. Disability leaders from all 50 states gathered around speaker phones at 180 sites to listen to the audio portion of your ADA video statement. Justin estimates that at least 1,500 disability leaders were listening to the call.

Cabinet/Agency Activity:

JUSTICE: Marking the sixth anniversary of the ADA, Attorney General Reno announced three new ADA education initiatives, including a worldwide web site. Reno also spoke at an ADA celebration in Louisville, KY honoring community members that demonstrated their commitment to accommodating people with disabilities.

FCC: On Friday, July 26, FCC Chairman Reed Hundt and Gallaudet student Tommy Parker will demonstrate a new high tech Telecommunication Relay Service (TRS) called Video Relay Interpreting (VRI). TRS provides access to the voice telephone networks for Americans with hearing and speech disabilities.

TRANSPORTATION: Secretary Peña hosted 300 disability activists last week to honor the late Tim Cook, a disability rights attorney, for his work in promoting greater transportation accessibility for people with disabilities.

EDUCATION: On July 26, Secretary Riley will commemorate the Sixth Anniversary of the ADA by visiting Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore to commend the hospital for its employment program for people with disabilities. In addition, Secretary Riley will announce a new vocational rehabilitation grant for the State of Maryland.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY (NCD), an independent Federal agency whose membership you appoint, released a new report this week titled, "Achieving Independence: the Challenge for the 21st Century." The report's recommendations address ADA enforcement, special education, employment, and outreach.