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Message:

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From: Sigrid

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Impact aid and student financial assistance—\$245 million;
HUD assisted housing—\$325 million;
Unanticipated needs fund—\$500 million; and
Midwest flood—\$685 million.

In addition, the President requested and the conference agreement recommends \$1.2 billion for the Department of Defense peacekeeping activities as an emergency.

Title II of the conference agreement contains regular fiscal year 1994 supplemental appropriations requested by the President. Of these amounts, three of the conference agreement's recommendations provide for mandatory funding of very important programs:

Veterans compensation and pensions—\$698 million;
Veterans readjustment benefits—\$103 million; and

Advances for unemployment trust fund—\$61.4 million.

In addition to these mandatory appropriations, the bill contains various discretionary fiscal year 1994 supplementals requested by the President for items such as salaries and expenses for certain agencies, certain items for the National Park Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs, et cetera. These discretionary appropriations total under \$160 million and are all accommodated within each subcommittee's 602(b) allocation.

Title III contains rescissions totaling \$3.25 billion. The conference agreement, like the Senate-passed bill, contains the congressional response to the President's rescission messages of November 1, 1993, and February 7, 1994. The total of those two Presidential rescission requests was \$3.17 billion. Therefore, the conference agreement includes rescissions totalling \$78 million in greater cuts than requested by the President.

In addition, an item of interest to Members would be the fact that the House accepted the Senate amendment to ensure that emergency funds contained in this measure to prohibit benefits for individuals not lawfully in this country with a modification intended to ensure that no discrimination occurs in the implementation of this section.

Another provision of interest to all Senators is the amendment extending the statute of limitation of criminal prosecution on the Resolution Trust Corporation. The House receded to this amendment, which was passed by the Senate by a vote of 95-0.

Mr. President, I thank all Members of the Senate for their cooperation in the expeditious passage of this measure. As always, their expertise and hard work were present throughout the entire consideration of this measure.

STATEMENT REGARDING CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3759

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise to express my appreciation to my fellow conferees for retaining the RTC

statute of limitations extension that the Senate adopted Wednesday evening.

In retaining this provision in the conference report, my colleagues have demonstrated their sense of fairness to the American people. The savings and loan bailout was a financial disaster for the taxpayer; this amendment should alleviate some of the costs of that disaster. We are talking about real money here. On the day that Madison Savings and Loan was taken over by the regulators, 35 other savings and loans were declared insolvent—this 1 day alone cost the taxpayers billions of dollars in bail-out costs.

I particularly would like to thank Senators METZENBAUM and MURKOWSKI for their hard work on this issue. Senator METZENBAUM has been a tireless advocate on this issue. In fact, the amendments that Senator MURKOWSKI and I offered Wednesday were nearly identical to draft legislation that Senator METZENBAUM forwarded to me on Tuesday for my consideration.

The amendment will extend the statute of limitations under which a suit may be brought against individuals who have committed fraud involving failed savings and loans. Under the amendment, the 5-year time limit is extended until December 31, 1995, or the date that the RTC terminates, if later.

This kind of congressional action shows the American people and the taxpayer that we are on the job—we're here looking out for their best interests. The statute of limitations on Madison and many other busted savings and loans was about to run out. When this amendment is enacted into law, we will have added valuable time back on to the ticking clock

TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ASSISTANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS AMENDMENTS ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on H.R. 2339, the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals Amendments Act of 1993.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2339) entitled "An Act to revise and extend the programs of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988, and for other purposes", with the following amendment:

In lieu of the matter inserted by said amendment, insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE*.—This Act may be cited as the "Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act Amendments of 1994"

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS*.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. References.

Sec. 3. Findings, purposes, and policy
Sec. 4. Definitions.

TITLE I—GRANTS TO STATES

Sec. 101. Program authorized.
Sec. 102. Development grants.
Sec. 103. Extension grants.
Sec. 104. Progress criteria and reports.
Sec. 105. Administrative provisions.
Sec. 106. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 107. Repeals.

TITLE II—PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Sec. 201. National classification system.
Sec. 202. Training and demonstration projects.

TITLE III—ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS

Sec. 301. Alternative financing mechanisms authorized.

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS

Sec. 401. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
Sec. 402. Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Sec. 403. Administrative requirements under the Head Start Act.
Sec. 404. Technical and conforming amendments.

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 501. Effective date.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise specifically provided whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988 (29 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS, PURPOSES, AND POLICY.

(a) *SECTION HEADING*.—Section 2 (29 U.S.C. 2201) is amended by striking the heading and inserting the following

"SEC. 2. FINDINGS, PURPOSES, AND POLICY."

(b) *FINDINGS*.—Section 2(a) (29 U.S.C. 2201(a)) is amended to read as follows.

(a) *FINDINGS*.—The Congress finds as follows.

(1) Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to—

- (A) live independently,
- (B) enjoy self-determination,
- (C) make choices,
- (D) pursue meaningful careers, and
- (E) enjoy full inclusion and integration in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of American society

(2) During the past decade, there have been major advances in modern technology. Technology is now a powerful force in the lives of all residents of the United States. Technology can provide important tools for making the performance of tasks quicker and easier.

(3) For some individuals with disabilities, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services are necessary to enable the individuals—

- (A) to have greater control over their lives,
- (B) to participate in, and contribute more fully to, activities in their home, school, and work environments, and in their communities;
- (C) to interact to a greater extent with individuals who do not have disabilities; and
- (D) to otherwise benefit from opportunities that are taken for granted by individuals who do not have disabilities.

(4) Substantial progress has been made in the development of assistive technology devices, including adaptations to existing equipment, that significantly benefit individuals with disabilities of all ages. Such devices can be used to increase the involvement of such individuals in, and reduce expenditures associated with, programs and activities such as early intervention, education, rehabilitation and training employ-

ment, residential living, independent living, recreation, and other aspects of daily living.

"(5) Most States have technology-related assistance programs carried out under this Act. In spite of the efforts made by such programs, there remains a need to support systems change and advocacy activities in order to assist States to develop and implement consumer-responsive, comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance for individuals with disabilities of all ages.

"(6) Notwithstanding the efforts of such State technology-related assistance programs, there is still a lack of—

"(A) resources to pay for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(B) trained personnel to assist individuals with disabilities to use such devices and services;

"(C) information among individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities, educators and related service personnel, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals about the availability and potential of technology for individuals with disabilities;

"(D) aggressive outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations;

"(E) systems that ensure timely acquisition and delivery of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, particularly with respect to children;

"(F) coordination among State human services programs, and between such programs and private entities, particularly with respect to transitions between such programs and entities; and

"(G) capacity in such programs to provide the necessary technology-related assistance.

"(7) Many individuals with disabilities cannot access existing telecommunications and information technologies and are at risk of not being able to access developing technologies. The failure of Federal and State governments, hardware manufacturers, software designers, information systems managers, and telecommunications service providers to account for the specific needs of individuals with disabilities results in the exclusion of such individuals from the use of telecommunications and information technologies and results in unnecessary costs associated with the retrofitting of devices and product systems.

"(8) There are insufficient incentives for the commercial pursuit of the application of technology devices to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities, because of the perception that such individuals constitute a limited market.

"(9) At the Federal level, there is a lack of coordination among agencies that provide or pay for the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services. In addition, the Federal Government does not provide adequate assistance and information with respect to the use of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities, educators and related services personnel, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals."

(c) PURPOSES.—Section 2(b) (29 U.S.C. 2201(b)) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are as follows:

"(1) To provide financial assistance to the States to support systems change and advocacy activities designed to assist each State in developing and implementing a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, for individuals with disabilities of all ages, that is designed to—

"(A) increase the availability of, funding for, access to, and provision of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(B) increase the active involvement of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of such a program;

"(C) increase the involvement of individuals with disabilities and, if appropriate, their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, in decisions related to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(D) increase the provision of outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations, to enable the two populations to enjoy the benefits of programs carried out to accomplish purposes described in this paragraph to the same extent as other populations;

"(E) increase and promote coordination among State agencies, and between State agencies and private entities, that are involved in carrying out activities under this title, particularly providing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, that accomplish a purpose described in another subparagraph of this paragraph;

"(F)(i) increase the awareness of laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that facilitate the availability or provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(ii) facilitate the change of laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that impede the availability or provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(G) increase the probability that individuals with disabilities of all ages will, to the extent appropriate, be able to secure and maintain possession of assistive technology devices as such individuals make the transition between services offered by human service agencies or between settings of daily living;

"(H) enhance the skills and competencies of individuals involved in providing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(I) increase awareness and knowledge of the efficacy of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services among—

"(i) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives;

"(ii) individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities;

"(iii) educators and related services personnel;

"(iv) technology experts (including engineers);

"(v) employers; and

"(vi) other appropriate individuals;

"(J) increase the capacity of public agencies and private entities to provide and pay for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services on a statewide basis for individuals with disabilities of all ages; and

"(K) increase the awareness of the needs of individuals with disabilities for assistive technology devices and for assistive technology services.

"(2) To identify Federal policies that facilitate payment for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, to identify Federal policies that impede such payment, and to eliminate inappropriate barriers to such payment.

"(3) To enhance the ability of the Federal Government to provide States with—

"(A) technical assistance, information, training, and public awareness programs relating to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(B) funding for demonstration projects."

(d) POLICY.—Section 2 (29 U.S.C. 2201) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(c) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States that all programs, projects, and activities

receiving assistance under this Act shall be consumer-responsive and shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the principles of—

"(1) respect for individual dignity, personal responsibility, self-determination, and pursuit of meaningful careers, based on informed choice, of individuals with disabilities;

"(2) respect for the privacy, rights, and equal access (including the use of accessible formats), of such individuals;

"(3) inclusion, integration, and full participation of such individuals;

"(4) support for the involvement of a family member, a guardian, an advocate, or an authorized representative, if an individual with a disability requests, desires, or needs such support; and

"(5) support for individual and systems advocacy and community involvement."

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3 (29 U.S.C. 2202) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (8) as paragraphs (2), (3), (7), (8), (10), (11), (13), and (14), respectively;

(2) by inserting before paragraph (10) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

"(1) ADVOCACY SERVICES.—The term 'advocacy services', except as used as part of the term 'protection and advocacy services', means services—

"(A) provided to assist individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives in accessing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(B) provided through—

"(i) individual case management for individuals with disabilities;

"(ii) representation of individuals with disabilities (other than representation within the definition of protection and advocacy services);

"(iii) training of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives to successfully conduct advocacy for themselves; or

"(iv) dissemination of information."

(3) in paragraph (3)(E) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking "family" and all that follows and inserting "the family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives of such an individual; and";

(4) by inserting after paragraph (3) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

"(4) COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE PROGRAM OF TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ASSISTANCE.—The term 'comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance' means a statewide program of technology-related assistance developed and implemented by a State under title 1 that—

"(A) addresses the needs of all individuals with disabilities, including members of underrepresented populations and members of rural populations;

"(B) addresses such needs without regard to the age, type of disability, race, ethnicity, or gender of such individuals, or the particular major life activity for which such individuals need the assistance; and

"(C) addresses such needs without requiring that the assistance be provided through any particular agency or service delivery system.

"(5) CONSUMER-RESPONSIVE.—The term 'consumer-responsive' means, with respect to an entity, program, or activity, that the entity, program, or activity—

"(A) is easily accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities and, when appropriate, their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives;

"(B) responds to the needs of individuals with disabilities in a timely and appropriate manner; and

"(C) facilitates the full and meaningful participation of individuals with disabilities (including individuals from underrepresented populations and rural populations) and their family

members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, in—

"(i) decisions relating to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(ii) the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

"(6) **DISABILITY**.—The term 'disability' means a condition of an individual that is considered to be a disability or handicap for the purposes of any Federal law other than this Act or for the purposes of the law of the State in which the individual resides."

(5) by striking paragraph (7) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) and inserting the following:

"(7) **INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY; INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**.—

"(A) **INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY**.—The term 'individual with a disability' means any individual—

"(i) who has a disability; and
 "(ii) who is or would be enabled by an assistive technology device or an assistive technology service to minimize deterioration in functioning, to maintain a level of functioning, or to achieve a greater level of functioning in any major life activity.

"(B) **INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**.—The term 'individuals with disabilities' means more than one individual with a disability."

(6) in paragraph (8) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking "section 435(b)" and inserting "section 1201(a)"; and

(B) by striking "1965" and inserting "1965 (20 U.S.C. 1141(a))";

(7) by inserting after paragraph (8) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) the following:

"(9) **PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES**.—The term 'protection and advocacy services' means services that—

"(A) are described in part C of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6041 et seq.), the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act (42 U.S.C. 10801 et seq.), or section 509 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794e); and
 "(B) assist individuals with disabilities with respect to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services."

(8) in paragraph (11) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking "several States" and inserting "several States of the United States";

(B) by striking "Virgin Islands" and inserting "United States Virgin Islands"; and

(C) by striking "the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" and inserting "the Republic of Palau (until the Compact of Free Association with Palau takes effect)";

(9) by inserting after such paragraph (11) the following:

"(12) **SYSTEMS CHANGE AND ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES**.—The term 'systems change and advocacy activities' means efforts that result in laws, regulations, policies, practices, or organizational structures that promote consumer-responsive programs or entities and that facilitate and increase access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services on a permanent basis, in order to empower individuals with disabilities to achieve greater independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion within the community and the work force."

(10) in paragraph (13) (as redesignated by paragraph (1))—

(A) by striking "functions performed and activities carried out under section 101" and inserting "assistance provided through systems change and advocacy activities"; and

(B) by inserting "any of subparagraphs (A) through (K) of" before "section 2(b)(1)"; and

(11) by amending paragraph (14) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

"(14) **UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATION**.—The term 'underrepresented population' includes a

population such as minorities, the poor, and persons with limited-English proficiency."

TITLE I—GRANTS TO STATES

SEC. 101. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

(a) **GRANTS TO STATES**.—Section 101(a) (29 U.S.C. 2211(a)) is amended—

(1) by inserting after "provisions of this title" the following: "to support systems change and advocacy activities designed"; and

(2) by striking "to develop and implement" and inserting "in developing and implementing".

(b) **ACTIVITIES**.—Section 101 (29 U.S.C. 2211) is amended by striking subsections (b) and (c) and inserting the following:

"(b) **ACTIVITIES**.—Any State that receives a grant under section 102 or 103 shall use the funds made available through the grant to accomplish the purposes described in section 2(b)(1) and, in accomplishing such purposes, may carry out any of the following systems change and advocacy activities:

"(1) **MODEL SYSTEMS AND ALTERNATIVE STATE-FINANCED SYSTEMS**.—The State may support activities to increase access to, and funding for, assistive technology, including—

"(A) the development, and evaluation of the efficacy, of model delivery systems that provide assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to individuals with disabilities, that pay for such devices and services, and that, if successful, could be replicated or generally applied, such as—

"(i) the development of systems for the purchase, lease, other acquisition, or payment for the provision, of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; or

"(ii) the establishment of alternative State or privately financed systems of subsidies for the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, such as—

"(I) a loan system for assistive technology devices;

"(II) an income-contingent loan fund;

"(III) a low-interest loan fund;

"(IV) a revolving loan fund;

"(V) a loan insurance program; or

"(VI) a partnership with private entities for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of assistive technology devices and the provision of assistive technology services;

"(B) the demonstration of assistive technology devices, including—

"(i) the provision of a location or locations within the State where—

"(I) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives;

"(II) education, rehabilitation, health care, and other service providers;

"(III) individuals who work for Federal, State, or local government entities; and

"(IV) employers,

can see and touch assistive technology devices, and learn about the devices from personnel who are familiar with such devices and their applications;

"(ii) the provision of counseling and assistance to individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives to determine individual needs for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(iii) the demonstration or short-term loan of assistive technology devices to individuals, employers, public agencies, or public accommodations seeking strategies to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794); and

"(C) the establishment of information systems about, and recycling centers for, the redistribution of assistive technology devices and equipment that may include device and equipment loans, rentals, or gifts.

"(2) **INTERAGENCY COORDINATION**.—The State may support activities—

"(A) to identify and coordinate Federal and State policies, resources, and services, relating to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, including entering into interagency agreements;

"(B) to convene interagency work groups to enhance public funding options and coordinate access to funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for individuals with disabilities of all ages, with special attention to the issues of transition (such as transition from school to work, and transition from participation in programs under part H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.), to participation in programs under part B of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.)) home use, and individual involvement in the identification, planning, use, delivery, and evaluation of such devices and services; or

"(C) to document and disseminate information about interagency activities that promote coordination with respect to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, including evidence of increased participation of State and local special education, vocational rehabilitation, and State medical assistance agencies and departments.

"(3) **OUTREACH**.—The State may carry out activities to encourage the creation or maintenance of, support, or provide assistance to, statewide and community-based organizations, or systems, that provide assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to individuals with disabilities or that assist individuals with disabilities in using assistive technology devices and assistive technology services. Such activities may include outreach to consumer organizations and groups in the State to coordinate the activities of the organizations and groups with efforts (including self-help, support groups, and peer mentoring) to assist individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, to obtain funding for, and access to, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(4) **EXPENSES**.—The State may pay for expenses, including travel expenses, and services, including services of qualified interpreters, readers, and personal care assistants, that may be necessary to ensure access to the comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance by individuals with disabilities who are determined by the State to be in financial need.

"(5) **STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT**.—The State may conduct a statewide needs assessment that may be based on data in existence on the date on which the assessment is initiated and may include—

"(A) estimates of the numbers of individuals with disabilities within the State, categorized by residence, type and extent of disabilities, age, race, gender, and ethnicity;

"(B) in the case of an assessment carried out under a development grant, a description of efforts, during the fiscal year preceding the first fiscal year for which the State received such a grant, to provide assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to individuals with disabilities within the State, including—

"(i) the number of individuals with disabilities who received appropriate assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(ii) a description of the devices and services provided;

"(C) information on the number of individuals with disabilities who are in need of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, and a description of the devices and services needed;

"(D) information on the cost of providing assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to all individuals with disabilities within the State who need such devices and services;

"(E) a description of State and local public resources and private resources (including insurance) that are available to establish a consumer-

responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance;

"(F) information identifying Federal and State laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that facilitate or interfere with the operation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance;

"(G) a description of the procurement policies of the State and the extent to which such policies will ensure, to the extent practicable, that assistive technology devices purchased, leased, or otherwise acquired with assistance made available through a grant made under section 102 or 103 are compatible with other technology devices, including technology devices designed primarily for use by—

"(i) individuals who are not individuals with disabilities;

"(ii) individuals who are elderly; or

"(iii) individuals with particular disabilities; and

"(H) information resulting from an inquiry about whether a State agency or task force (composed of individuals representing the State and individuals representing the private sector) should study the practices of private insurance companies holding licenses within the State that offer health or disability insurance policies under which an individual may obtain reimbursement for—

"(i) the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of assistive technology devices; or

"(ii) the use of assistive technology services.

"(6) PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The State may—

"(i) support a public awareness program designed to provide information relating to the availability and efficacy of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for—

"(I) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives;

"(II) individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities;

"(III) educators and related services personnel;

"(IV) technology experts (including engineers);

"(V) employers; and

"(VI) other appropriate individuals and entities; or

"(ii) establish and support such a program if no such program exists.

"(B) CONTENTS.—Such a public awareness program may include—

"(i) the development and dissemination of information relating to—

"(I) the nature of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(II) the appropriateness, cost, and availability of, and access to, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(III) the efficacy of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services with respect to enhancing the capacity of individuals with disabilities;

"(ii) the development of procedures for providing direct communication among public providers of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services and between public providers and private providers of such devices and services (including employers); and

"(iii) the development and dissemination of information relating to the use of the program by individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, professionals who work in a field related to an activity described in this section, and other appropriate individuals.

"(7) TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The State may carry out directly, or may provide support to a public or private entity to carry out, training and technical assistance activities—

"(A) that—

"(i) are provided for individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals; and

"(ii) may include—

"(I) training in the use of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(II) the development of written materials, training, and technical assistance describing the means by which agencies consider the needs of an individual with a disability for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services in developing, for the individual, any individualized education program described in section 614(a)(5) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1414(a)(5)), any individualized written rehabilitation program described in section 102 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 722), any individualized family service plan described in section 677 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1477), and any other individualized plans or programs;

"(III) training regarding the rights of the persons described in clause (i) to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services under any law other than this Act, to promote fuller independence, productivity, and inclusion in and integration into society of such persons; and

"(IV) training to increase consumer participation in the identification, planning, use, delivery, and evaluation of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(B) that—

"(i) enhance the assistive technology skills and competencies of—

"(I) individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities;

"(II) educators and related services personnel;

"(III) technology experts (including engineers);

"(IV) employers; and

"(V) other appropriate personnel; and

"(ii) include taking actions to facilitate the development of standards, or, when appropriate, the application of such standards, to ensure the availability of qualified personnel.

"(8) PROGRAM DATA.—The State may support the compilation and evaluation of appropriate data related to a program described in subsection (a).

"(9) ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY-RELATED INFORMATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The State may develop, operate, or expand a system for public access to information concerning an activity carried out under another paragraph of this subsection, including information about assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, funding sources and costs of such assistance, and individuals, organizations, and agencies capable of carrying out such an activity for individuals with disabilities.

"(B) ACCESS.—Access to the system may be provided through community-based entities, including public libraries, centers for independent living (as defined in section 702(1) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796a(1))), and community rehabilitation programs (as defined in section 7(25) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 706(25))).

"(C) SYSTEM.—In developing, operating, or expanding a system described in subparagraph (A), the State may—

"(i) develop, compile, and categorize print, large print, braille, audio, and video materials, computer disks, compact discs (including compact discs formatted with read-only memory), information that can be used in telephone-based information systems, and such other media as technological innovation may make appropriate;

"(ii) identify and classify existing funding sources, and the conditions of and criteria for access to such sources, including any funding mechanisms or strategies developed by the State;

"(iii) identify existing support groups and systems designed to help individuals with disabili-

ties make effective use of an activity carried out under another paragraph of this subsection; and

"(iv) maintain a record of the extent to which citizens of the State use or make inquiries of the system established in subparagraph (A), and of the nature of such inquiries.

"(D) LINKAGES.—The information system may be organized on an interstate basis or as part of a regional consortium of States in order to facilitate the establishment of compatible, linked information systems.

"(10) INTERSTATE ACTIVITIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The State may enter into cooperative agreements with other States to expand the capacity of the States involved to assist individuals with disabilities of all ages to learn about, acquire, use, maintain, adapt, and upgrade assistive technology devices and assistive technology services that such individuals need at home, at school, at work, or in other environments that are part of daily living.

"(B) ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.—The State may operate or participate in a computer system through which the State may electronically communicate with other States to gain technical assistance in a timely fashion and to avoid the duplication of efforts already undertaken in other States.

"(11) PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATIVE INITIATIVES.—The State may support the establishment or continuation of partnerships and cooperative initiatives between the public sector and the private sector to promote greater participation by business and industry in—

"(A) the development, demonstration, and dissemination of assistive technology devices; and

"(B) the ongoing provision of information about new products to assist individuals with disabilities.

"(12) ADVOCACY SERVICES.—The State may provide advocacy services.

"(13) OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The State may utilize amounts made available through grants made under section 102 or 103 for any systems change and advocacy activities, other than the activities described in another paragraph of this subsection, that are necessary for developing, implementing, or evaluating the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

"(c) NONSUPPLANTATION.—In carrying out systems change and advocacy activities under this title, the State shall ensure that the activities supplement, and not supplant, similar activities that have been carried out pursuant to other Federal or State law."

SEC. 102. DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.

Section 102 (29 U.S.C. 2212) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "3-year grants" and inserting "3-year grants to support systems change and advocacy activities described in section 101(b) (including activities described in subsection (e)(7))"; and

(B) by striking "to develop and implement statewide programs" and inserting "in developing and implementing consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs";

(2) by striking subsection (b);

(3) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively;

(4) in subsection (b) (as redesignated in paragraph (3))—

(A) in paragraph (3)(C), by striking "statewide program" and inserting "consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program"; and

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking "(A)" and inserting "(A) STATE.—";

(II) by inserting "United States" before "Virgin Islands"; and

(III) by striking "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" and inserting "Republic of Palau"; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking "(B)" and inserting "(B) TERRITORY.—";

(II) by inserting "United States" before "Virgin Islands"; and

(III) by striking "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" and inserting "Republic of Palau (until the Compact of Free Association takes effect)";

(5) in paragraph (2) of subsection (c) (as redesignated in paragraph (3)) by striking "statewide programs" and inserting "consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs";

(6) by inserting after such subsection (c) the following:

"(d) DESIGNATION OF THE LEAD AGENCY.—

"(I) DESIGNATION.—The Governor of any State that desires to receive a grant under this section shall designate the office, agency, entity, or individual (referred to in this Act as the 'lead agency') responsible for—

"(A) submitting the application described in subsection (e) on behalf of the State;

"(B) administering and supervising the use of amounts made available under the grant;

"(C)(i) coordinating efforts related to, and supervising the preparation of, the application;

(ii) coordinating the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance among public agencies and between public agencies and private agencies, including coordinating efforts related to entering into interagency agreements; and

(iii) coordinating efforts related to, and supervising, the active, timely, and meaningful participation by individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals, with respect to activities carried out under the grant; and

(D) the delegation, in whole or in part, of any responsibilities described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) to one or more appropriate offices, agencies, entities, or individuals.

"(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—In designating the lead agency, the Governor may designate—

"(A) a commission appointed by the Governor;

"(B) a public-private partnership or consortium;

"(C) a university-affiliated program;

"(D) a public agency;

"(E) a council established under Federal or State law; or

"(F) another appropriate office, agency, entity, or individual.

"(3) ABILITIES OF LEAD AGENCY.—The State shall provide, in accordance with subsection (e)(1), evidence that the lead agency has the ability—

"(A) to respond to assistive technology needs across disabilities and ages;

"(B) to promote the availability throughout the State of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(C) to promote and implement systems change and advocacy activities;

"(D) to promote and develop public-private partnerships;

"(E) to exercise leadership in identifying and responding to the technology needs of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives;

"(F) to promote consumer confidence, responsiveness, and advocacy; and

"(G) to exercise leadership in implementing effective strategies for capacity building, staff and consumer training, and enhancement of access to funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services across agencies.";

(7) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and inserting the following:

"(1) DESIGNATION OF THE LEAD AGENCY.—Information identifying the lead agency designated by the Governor under subsection (d)(1), and the evidence described in subsection (d)(3),

"(2) AGENCY INVOLVEMENT.—A description of the nature and extent of involvement of various State agencies, including the State insurance department, in the preparation of the application and the continuing role of each agency in the development and implementation of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, including the identification of the available resources and financial responsibility of each agency for paying for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(3) INVOLVEMENT.—

"(A) CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT.—A description of procedures that provide for—

"(i)(I) the active involvement of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals, in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the program; and

(II) the active involvement, to the maximum extent appropriate, of individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology devices or assistive technology services, in decisions relating to such devices and services; and

(ii) mechanisms for determining consumer satisfaction and participation of individuals with disabilities who represent a variety of ages and types of disabilities, in the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

"(B) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT.—A description of the nature and extent of—

"(i) the involvement, in the designation of the lead agency under subsection (d), and in the development of the application, of—

"(I) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives;

"(II) other appropriate individuals who are not employed by a State agency; and

"(III) organizations, providers, and interested parties, in the private sector; and

"(ii) the continuing role of the individuals and entities described in clause (i) in the program.";

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking "underserved groups" and inserting "underrepresented populations or rural populations";

(C) in paragraphs (4) and (5), by striking "statewide program" each place the term appears and inserting "consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program";

(D) by striking paragraphs (6), (7), and (17);

(E) by redesignating paragraphs (8) and (9) as paragraphs (17) and (18), respectively, and transferring such paragraphs to the end of the subsection;

(F) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

"(6) GOALS, OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES, AND OUTCOMES.—Information on the program with respect to—

"(A) the goals and objectives of the State for the program;

"(B) the systems change and advocacy activities that the State plans to carry out under the program; and

"(C) the expected outcomes of the State for the program, consistent with the purposes described in section 2(b)(1).

"(7) PRIORITY ACTIVITIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—An assurance that the State will use funds made available under this section or section 103 to accomplish the purposes described in section 2(b)(1) and the goals, objectives, and outcomes described in paragraph (6), and to carry out the systems change and advocacy activities described in paragraph (6)(B), in a manner that is consumer-responsive.

"(B) PARTICULAR ACTIVITIES.—An assurance that the State, in carrying out such systems change and advocacy activities, shall carry out activities regarding—

"(i) the development, implementation, and monitoring of State, regional, and local laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and

organizational structures, that will improve access to, provision of, funding for, and timely acquisition and delivery of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(ii) the development and implementation of strategies to overcome barriers regarding access to, provision of, and funding for, such devices and services, with priority for identification of barriers to funding through State education (including special education) services, vocational rehabilitation services, and medical assistance services or, as appropriate, other health and human services, and with particular emphasis on overcoming barriers for underrepresented populations and rural populations;

"(iii) coordination of activities among State agencies, in order to facilitate access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(iv) the development and implementation of strategies to empower individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, to successfully advocate for increased access to, funding for, and provision of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, and to increase the participation, choice, and control of such individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives in the selection and procurement of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(v) the provision of outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations, including identifying and assessing the needs of such populations, providing activities to increase the accessibility of services to such populations, training representatives of such populations to become service providers, and training staff of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance to work with such populations; and

"(vi) the development and implementation of strategies to ensure timely acquisition and delivery of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, particularly for children, unless the State demonstrates through the progress reports required under section 104 that significant progress has been made in the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, and that other systems change and advocacy activities will increase the likelihood that the program will accomplish the purposes described in section 2(b)(1).

"(8) ASSESSMENT.—An assurance that the State will conduct an annual assessment of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, in order to determine—

"(A) the extent to which the State's goals and objectives for systems change and advocacy activities, as identified in the State plan under paragraph (6), have been achieved; and

"(B) the areas of need that require attention in the next year.

"(9) DATA COLLECTION.—A description of—

"(A) the data collection system used for compiling information on the program, consistent with such requirements as the Secretary may establish for such systems, and, when a national classification system is developed pursuant to section 201, consistent with such classification system; and

"(B) procedures that will be used to conduct evaluations of the program.";

(G) in paragraphs (11)(B)(i) and (12)(B) by striking "individual with disabilities" and inserting "individual with a disability";

(H) in paragraph (16)(A), by striking "the families or representatives of individuals with disabilities" and inserting "their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives"; and

(I) by adding at the end the following:

"(19) **AUTHORITY TO USE FUNDS.**—An assurance that the lead agency will have the authority to use funds made available through a grant made under this section or section 103 to comply with the requirements of this section or section 103, respectively, including the ability to hire qualified staff necessary to carry out activities under the program.

"(20) **PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES.**—
Either—

"(A) an assurance that the State will annually provide, from the funds made available to the State through a grant made under this section or section 103, an amount calculated in accordance with subsection (f)(4), in order to make a grant to, or enter into a contract with, an entity to support protection and advocacy services through the systems established to provide protection and advocacy under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6000 et seq.), the Protection and Advocacy for Mentally Ill Individuals Act (42 U.S.C. 10801 et seq.), and section 509 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794e); or

"(B) at the discretion of the State, a request that the Secretary annually reserve, from the funds made available to the State through a grant made under this section or section 103, an amount calculated in accordance with subsection (f)(4), in order for the Secretary to make a grant to or enter into a contract with such a system to support protection and advocacy services.

"(21) **TRAINING ACTIVITIES.**—An assurance that the State—

"(A) will develop and implement strategies for including personnel training regarding assistive technology within existing Federal- and State-funded training initiatives, in order to enhance assistive technology skills and competencies; and

"(B) will document such training.

"(22) **LIMIT ON INDIRECT COSTS.**—An assurance that the percentage of the funds received under the grant that is used for indirect costs shall not exceed 10 percent.

"(23) **COORDINATION WITH STATE COUNCILS.**—An assurance that the lead agency will coordinate the activities funded through a grant made under this section or section 103 with the activities carried out by other councils within the State, including—

"(A) any council or commission specified in the assurance provided by the State in accordance with section 101(a)(36) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 721(a)(36));

"(B) the Statewide Independent Living Council established under section 705 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796d);

"(C) the advisory panel established under section 613(a)(12) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1413(a)(12));

"(D) the State Interagency Coordinating Council established under section 682 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1482);

"(E) the State Planning Council described in section 124 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6024);

"(F) the State mental health planning council established under section 1914 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300r-3); and

"(G) any council established under section 204, 206(g)(2)(A), or 712(a)(3)(H) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3015, 3017(g)(2)(A), or 3058g(a)(3)(H)).

"(24) **COORDINATION WITH OTHER SYSTEMS CHANGE AND ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES.**—An assurance that there will be coordination between the activities funded through the grant and other related systems change and advocacy activities funded by either Federal or State sources.

"(25) **OTHER INFORMATION AND ASSURANCES.**—Such other information and assurances as the Secretary may reasonably require; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

"(f) **PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY REQUIREMENTS.**—

"(1) **REQUIREMENTS.**—A State that, as of June 30, 1993, has provided for protection and advocacy services through an entity that—

"(A) is capable of performing the functions that would otherwise be performed under subsection (e)(20) by the system described in subsection (e)(20); and

"(B) is not a system described in such subsection,

shall be considered to meet the requirements of such subsection. Such entity shall receive funding to provide such protection and advocacy services in accordance with paragraph (4), and shall comply with the same requirements of this title (other than the requirements of such subsection) as a system that receives funding under such subsection.

"(2) **PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICE PROVIDER REPORT.**—

"(A) **PREPARATION.**—A system that receives funds under subsection (e)(20) to carry out the protection and advocacy services described in subsection (e)(20)(A) in a State, or an entity described in paragraph (1) that carries out such services in the State, shall prepare reports that contain such information as the Secretary may require, including the following:

"(i) A description of the activities carried out by the system or entity with such funds.

"(ii) Documentation of significant progress, in providing protection and advocacy services, in each of the following areas:

"(I) Conducting activities that are consumer-responsive, including activities that will lead to increased access to funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(II) Executing legal, administrative, and other appropriate means of representation to implement systems change and advocacy activities.

"(III) Developing and implementing strategies designed to enhance the long-term abilities of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives to successfully advocate for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services to which the individuals with disabilities are entitled under law other than this Act.

"(IV) Coordinating activities with protection and advocacy services funded through sources other than this Act, and coordinating activities with the systems change and advocacy activities carried out by the State lead agency.

"(B) **SUBMISSION.**—The system or entity shall submit the reports to the program described in subsection (a) in the State not less often than every 6 months.

"(C) **UPDATES.**—The system or entity shall provide monthly updates to the program described in subsection (a) concerning the activities and information described in subparagraph (A).

"(3) **CONSULTATION WITH STATE PROGRAMS.**—Before making a grant or entering into a contract under subsection (e)(20)(B) to support the protection and advocacy services described in subsection (e)(20)(A) in a State, the Secretary shall solicit and consider the opinions of the lead agency in the State with respect to the terms of the grant or contract.

"(4) **CALCULATION OF EXPENDITURES.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—For each fiscal year, for each State receiving a grant under this section or section 103, the Secretary shall specify a minimum amount that the State shall use to provide protection and advocacy services.

"(B) **INITIAL YEARS OF GRANT.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (C) or (D)—

"(i) the Secretary shall calculate such minimum amount for a State based on the size of the grant, the needs of individuals with disabilities within the State, the population of the State, and the geographic size of the State; and

"(ii) such minimum amount shall be not less than \$40,000 and not more than \$100,000.

"(C) **FOURTH YEAR OF SECOND EXTENSION GRANT.**—If a State receives a second extension

grant under section 103(a)(2), the Secretary shall specify a minimum amount under subparagraph (A) for the fourth year (if any) of the grant period that shall equal 75 percent of the minimum amount specified for the State under such subparagraph for the third year of the second extension grant of the State.

"(D) **FIFTH YEAR OF SECOND EXTENSION GRANT.**—If a State receives a second extension grant under section 103(a)(2), the Secretary shall specify a minimum amount under subparagraph (A) for the fifth year (if any) of the grant period that shall equal 50 percent of the minimum amount specified for the State under such subparagraph for the third year of the second extension grant of the State.

"(E) **PROHIBITION.**—After the fifth year (if any) of the grant period, no Federal funds may be made available under this title by the State to a system described in subsection (e)(20) or an entity described in paragraph (1)."

SEC. 103. EXTENSION GRANTS.

Section 103 (29 U.S.C. 2213) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 103. EXTENSION GRANTS.

"(a) EXTENSION GRANTS.—

"(1) **INITIAL EXTENSION GRANT.**—The Secretary may award an initial extension grant, for a period of 2 years, to any State that meets the standards specified in subsection (b)(1).

"(2) **SECOND EXTENSION GRANT.**—The Secretary may award a second extension grant, for a period of not more than 5 years, to any State that meets the standards specified in subsection (b)(2).

"(b) STANDARDS.—

"(1) **INITIAL EXTENSION GRANT.**—In order for a State to receive an initial extension grant under this section, the designated lead agency of the State shall—

"(A) provide the evidence described in section 102(d)(3); and

"(B) demonstrate that the State has made significant progress, and has carried out systems change and advocacy activities that have resulted in significant progress, toward the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, consistent with sections 2(b)(1), 101, and 102.

"(2) **SECOND EXTENSION GRANT.**—

"(A) **RESPONSIBILITIES OF DESIGNATED LEAD AGENCY.**—In order for a State to receive a second extension grant under this section, the designated lead agency shall—

"(i) provide the evidence and make the demonstration described in paragraph (1);

"(ii) describe the steps the State has taken or will take to continue on a permanent basis the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance with the ability to maintain, at a minimum, the outcomes achieved by the systems change and advocacy activities; and

"(iii) identify future funding options and commitments for the program from the public and private sector and the key individuals, agencies, and organizations to be involved in, and to direct future efforts of, the program.

"(B) **DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.**—In making any award to a State for a second extension grant, the Secretary shall (except as provided in section 105(a)(2)(A)(iii)) make such award contingent on a determination, based on the onsite visit required under section 105(a)(2)(A)(ii), that the State is making significant progress toward development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance. If the Secretary determines that the State is not making such progress, the Secretary may take an action described in section 105(b)(2), in accordance with the applicable procedures described in section 105.

"(c) **AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.**—

"(1) **INITIAL EXTENSION GRANTS.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—

"(i) STATES.—From amounts appropriated under section 106 for any fiscal year, the Secretary shall pay an amount that is not less than \$500,000 and not greater than \$1,500,000 to each State (other than a State described in clause (ii)) that receives an initial extension grant under subsection (a)(1).

"(ii) TERRITORIES.—From amounts appropriated under section 106 for any fiscal year, the Secretary shall pay an amount that is not greater than \$150,000 to any of the following States that receives an initial extension grant under subsection (a)(1):

"(I) The United States Virgin Islands.

"(II) Guam.

"(III) American Samoa.

"(IV) The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"(V) The Republic of Palau (until the Compact of Free Association takes effect).

"(B) CALCULATION OF AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall calculate the amount described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) with respect to a State on the basis of—

"(i) amounts available for making grants pursuant to subsection (a)(1);

"(ii) the population of the State;

"(iii) the types of assistance to be provided in the State; and

"(iv) the amount of resources committed by the State and available to the State from other sources.

"(C) PRIORITY FOR PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATING STATES.—Amounts appropriated in any fiscal year for purposes of carrying out subsection (a)(1) shall first be made available to States that received assistance under this section during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year concerned.

"(D) INCREASES.—In providing any increases in initial extension grants under subsection (a)(1) above the amounts provided to States under this section for fiscal year 1993, the Secretary may give priority to—

"(i) the States (other than the States described in subparagraph (A)(ii)) that have the largest populations, based on the most recent census data; and

"(ii) the States (other than the States described in subparagraph (A)(ii)) that are sparsely populated, with a wide geographic spread, where such characteristics have impeded the development of a consumer-responsive, comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

"(2) SECOND EXTENSION GRANTS.—

"(A) AMOUNTS AND PRIORITY.—The amounts of, and the priority of applicants for, the second extension grants awarded under subsection (a)(2) shall be determined by the Secretary, except that—

"(i) the amount paid to a State for the fourth year (if any) of the grant period shall be 75 percent of the amount paid to the State for the third year of the grant period;

"(ii) the amount paid to a State for the fifth year (if any) of the grant period shall be 50 percent of the amount paid to the State for the third year of the grant period; and

"(iii) after the fifth year of the grant period, no Federal funds may be made available to the State under this title.

"(B) INCREASES.—In providing any increases in second extension grants under subsection (a)(2) above the amounts provided to States under this section for fiscal year 1993, the Secretary may give priority to States described in paragraph (1)(D).

"(d) APPLICATION.—A State that desires to receive an extension grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary that contains the following information and assurances with respect to the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance in the State:

"(1) INFORMATION AND ASSURANCES.—The information and assurances described in section 102(e), except the preliminary needs assessment described in section 102(e)(4).

"(2) NEEDS, PROBLEMS, STRATEGIES, OUTREACH.—

"(A) NEEDS.—A description of needs relating to technology-related assistance of individuals with disabilities (including individuals from underrepresented populations or rural populations) and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, and other appropriate individuals within the State.

"(B) PROBLEMS.—A description of any problems or gaps that remain with the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance in the State.

"(C) STRATEGIES.—A description of the strategies that the State will pursue during the grant period to remedy the problems or gaps with the development and implementation of such a program.

"(D) OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—A description of outreach activities to be conducted by the State, including dissemination of information to eligible populations, with special attention to underrepresented populations and rural populations.

"(3) ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS UNDER PREVIOUS GRANT.—A description of—

"(A) the specific systems change and advocacy activities described in section 101(b) (including the activities described in section 1012(e)(7)) carried out under the development grant received by the State under section 102, or, in the case of an application for a grant under subsection (a)(2), under an initial extension grant received by the State under this section, including—

"(i) a description of systems change and advocacy activities that were undertaken to produce change on a permanent basis for individuals with disabilities of all ages;

"(ii) a description of activities undertaken to improve the involvement of individuals with disabilities in the program, including training and technical assistance efforts to improve individual access to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services as mandated under other laws and regulations as in effect on the date of the application, and including actions undertaken to improve the participation of underrepresented populations and rural populations, such as outreach efforts; and

"(iii) an evaluation of the impact and results of the activities described in clauses (i) and (ii);

"(B) the relationship of such systems change and advocacy activities to the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance; and

"(C) the progress made toward the development and implementation of such a program.

"(4) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT.—

"(A) REPORT.—In the case of an application for a grant under subsection (a)(1), a report on the hearing described in subsection (e)(1) or, in the case of an application for a grant under subsection (a)(2), a report on the hearing described in subsection (e)(2).

"(B) OTHER STATE ACTIONS.—A description of State actions, other than such a hearing, designed to determine the degree of satisfaction of individuals with disabilities, and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, public service providers and private service providers, educators and related services providers, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals and entities with—

"(i) the degree of their ongoing involvement in the development and implementation of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance;

"(ii) the specific systems change and advocacy activities described in section 101(b) (including the activities described in section 1012(e)(7)) carried out by the State under the development grant or the initial extension grant;

"(iii) progress made toward the development and implementation of a consumer-responsive

comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance; and

"(iv) the ability of the lead agency to carry out the activities described in section 102(d)(3).

"(5) COMMENTS.—A summary of any comments received concerning the issues described in paragraph (4) and response of the State to such comments, solicited through a public hearing referred to in paragraph (4) or through other means, from individuals affected by the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, including—

"(A) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives;

"(B) public service providers and private service providers;

"(C) educators and related services personnel;

"(D) technology experts (including engineers);

"(E) employers; and

"(F) other appropriate individuals and entities.

"(6) COMPATIBILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.—An assistance that the State, or any recipient of funds made available to the State under section 102 of this section, will comply with guidelines established under section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794d).

"(e) PUBLIC HEARING.—

"(1) INITIAL EXTENSION GRANT.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a)(1), a State shall hold a public hearing in the third year of a program carried out under a grant made under section 102, after providing appropriate and sufficient notice to allow interested groups and organizations and all segments of the public an opportunity to comment on the program.

"(2) SECOND EXTENSION GRANT.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a)(2), a State shall hold a public hearing in the second year of a program carried out under a grant made under subsection (a)(1), after providing the notice described in paragraph (1)."

SEC. 104. PROGRESS CRITERIA AND REPORTS.

Section 104 (29 U.S.C. 2214) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 104. PROGRESS CRITERIA AND REPORTS.

"(a) GUIDELINES.—The Secretary shall develop guidelines to be used in assessing the extent to which a State that received a grant under section 102 or 103 is making significant progress in developing and implementing a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance consistent with section 2(b)(1).

"(b) REPORTS.—Each State that receives a grant under section 102 or 103 to carry out such a program shall submit annually to the Secretary a report that documents significant progress in developing and implementing a consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, consistent with sections 2(b)(1), 101, and 102(e), and that documents the following:

"(1) The progress the State has made, as determined in the State's annual assessment described in section 102(e)(3) (consistent with the guidelines established by the Secretary under subsection (a)), in achieving the State's goals, objectives, and outcomes as identified in the State's application as described in section 102(e)(6), and areas of need that require attention in the next year, including unanticipated problems with the achievement of the goals, objectives, and outcomes described in the application, and the activities the State has undertaken to rectify these problems.

"(2) The systems change and advocacy activities carried out by the State including—

"(A) an analysis of the laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures that the State has changed, has attempted to change, or will attempt to change during the next year, to facilitate and

increase timely access to, provision of, or funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(B) a description of any written policies and procedures that the State has developed and implemented regarding access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, particularly policies and procedures regarding access to, provision of, and funding for, such devices and services under education (including special education), vocational rehabilitation, and medical assistance programs.

"(3) The degree of involvement of various State agencies, including the State insurance department, in the development, implementation, and evaluation of the program, including any interagency agreements that the State has developed and implemented regarding access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services such as agreements that identify available resources for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services and the responsibility of each agency for paying for such devices and services.

"(4) The activities undertaken to collect and disseminate information about the documents or activities analyzed or described in paragraphs (1) through (3), including outreach activities to underrepresented populations and rural populations and efforts to disseminate information by means of electronic communication.

"(5) The involvement of individuals with disabilities who represent a variety of ages and types of disabilities in the planning, development, implementation, and assessment of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance, including activities undertaken to improve such involvement, such as consumer training and outreach activities to underrepresented populations and rural populations.

"(6) The degree of consumer satisfaction with the program, including satisfaction by underrepresented populations and rural populations

"(7) Efforts to train personnel as well as consumers

"(8) Efforts to reduce the service delivery time for receiving assistive technology devices and assistive technology services

"(9) Significant progress in the provision of protection and advocacy services, in each of the areas described in section 102(f)(2)(A)(ii).

SEC. 105. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.

(a) REVIEW OF PARTICIPATING STATES.—Section 105(a) (29 U.S.C. 2215(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by inserting before the period the following: "consistent with the guidelines established under section 104(a)"

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following

"(2) ONSITE VISITS.—

"(A) VISITS—

"(i) DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall conduct an onsite visit during the final year of each State's participation in the development grant program

"(ii) EXTENSION GRANT PROGRAM.—Except as provided in clause (iii), the Secretary shall conduct an additional onsite visit to any State that applies for a second extension grant under section 103(a)(2) and whose initial onsite visit occurred prior to the date of the enactment of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act Amendments of 1994. The Secretary shall conduct any such visit to the State not later than 12 months after the date on which the Secretary awards the second extension grant.

"(iii) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall not be required to conduct a visit described in clause (ii) if the Secretary determines that the visit is not necessary to assess whether the State is making significant progress toward development and implementation of a consumer-respon-

sive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance.

"(B) TEAM.—Two-thirds of the onsite monitoring team in each case shall be qualified peer reviewers, who—

"(i) shall not be lead agency personnel;

"(ii) shall be from States other than the State being monitored; and

"(iii) shall include an individual with a disability, or a family member, a guardian, an advocate, or an authorized representative of such an individual.

"(C) COMPENSATION.—

"(i) OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES.—Members of any onsite monitoring team who are officers or full-time employees of the United States shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as officers or employees of the United States, but may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, for individuals in the Government service traveling on official business.

"(ii) OTHER MEMBERS.—Members of any onsite monitoring team who are not officers or full-time employees of the United States shall receive compensation at a rate not to exceed the daily equivalent of the rate of pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including traveltime) during which such members are engaged in the actual performance of their duties as members of an onsite monitoring team. In addition, such members may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5, United States Code, for individuals in the Government service employed intermittently

"(D) REPORT.—The Secretary shall prepare a report of findings from the onsite visit. The Secretary shall consider the findings in determining whether to continue funding the program either with or without changes. The report shall be available to the public."

(3) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5) respectively

(4) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following

"(3) ADVANCE PUBLIC NOTICE.—The Secretary shall provide advance public notice of the onsite visit and solicit public comment through such notice from individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, public service providers and private service providers, educators and related services personnel, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals and entities, regarding the State program funded through a grant made under section 102 or 103. The public comment solicitation notice shall be included in the onsite visit report described in paragraph (2)." and

(5) in paragraph (4) (as redesignated in paragraph (3)) by striking "statewide program" and inserting "consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program"

(b) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.—Section 105(b) (29 U.S.C. 2215(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "PENALTIES" and inserting "CORRECTIVE ACTIONS";

(B) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "penalties" and inserting "corrective actions";

(C) by striking "or" at the end of subparagraph (B);

(D) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting "; or"; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

"(D) required redesignation of the lead agency, in accordance with subsection (c)."; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking "subsection (a)(4)" and inserting "subsection (a)(5)"

(c) REDESIGNATION.—Section 105 (29 U.S.C. 2215) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(c) REDESIGNATION OF LEAD AGENCY.—

"(1) MONITORING PANEL.—

"(A) APPOINTMENT.—Once a State becomes subject to a corrective action plan pursuant to subsection (b), the Governor of the State, subject to approval by the Secretary, shall appoint, within 30 days after the submission of the plan to the Secretary, a monitoring panel consisting of the following representatives:

"(i) The head of the lead agency designated by the Governor.

"(ii) 2 representatives from different public or private nonprofit organizations that represent the interests of individuals with disabilities.

"(iii) 2 consumers who are users of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services and who are not—

"(I) members of the advisory council, if any, of the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance; or

"(II) employees of the State lead agency.

"(iv) 2 service providers with knowledge and expertise in assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(B) MEMBERSHIP AND CHAIRPERSON.—The monitoring panel shall be ethnically diverse. The panel shall select a chairperson from among the members of the panel.

"(C) INFORMATION.—The panel shall receive periodic reports from the State regarding progress in implementing the corrective action plan and shall have the authority to request additional information necessary to determine compliance.

"(D) MEETINGS.—The meetings of the panel to determine compliance shall be open to the public (subject to confidentiality concerns) and held at locations that are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

"(E) PERIOD.—The panel shall carry out the duties of the panel for the entire period of the corrective action plan, as determined by the Secretary.

"(F) FUNDING.—The panel shall be funded by a portion of the funds received by the State under this title, as directed by the Secretary

"(2) FAILURE TO APPOINT MONITORING PANEL.—A failure by a Governor of a State to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) shall result in the termination of funding for the State under this title

"(3) DETERMINATION.—

"(A) PANEL.—Based on its findings, a monitoring panel may determine that a lead agency designated by a Governor has not accomplished the purposes described in section 2(b)(1) and that there is good cause for redesignation of the agency and the temporary loss of funds by the State under this title

"(B) GOOD CAUSE.—In this paragraph, the term "good cause" includes—

"(i) lack of progress with employment of qualified staff,

"(ii) lack of consumer-responsive activities,

"(iii) lack of resource allocation to systems change and advocacy activities;

"(iv) lack of progress with meeting the assurances in section 102(e), or

"(v) inadequate fiscal management.

"(C) RECOMMENDATION AND ACTION.—If a monitoring panel makes such a determination the panel shall recommend to the Secretary that further remedial action be taken or that the Secretary order the Governor to redesignate the lead agency within 90 days or lose funds under this title. The Secretary, based on the findings and recommendations of the monitoring panel and after providing to the public notice and an opportunity for comment, shall make a final determination regarding whether to order the Governor to redesignate the lead agency. The Governor shall make any such redesignation in accordance with the requirements that apply to redesignations under section 102(d).

"(d) CHANGE OF PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES PROVIDER.—

"(1) DETERMINATION.—The Governor of a State, based on input from individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, may determine that the entity providing protection and advocacy services required by section 102(e)(20) (referred to in this subsection as the 'first entity') has not met the protection and advocacy service needs of the individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, for securing funding for and access to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, and that there is good cause to provide the protection and advocacy services for the State through a contract with a second entity.

"(2) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.—On making such a determination, the Governor may not enter into a contract with a second entity to provide the protection and advocacy services unless good cause exists and unless—

"(A) the Governor has given the first entity 30 days notice of the intention to enter into such contract, including specification of the good cause, and an opportunity to respond to the assertion that good cause has been shown;

"(B) individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, have timely notice of the determination and opportunity for public comment; and

"(C) the first entity has the opportunity to appeal the determination to the Secretary within 30 days of the determination on the basis that there is not good cause to enter into the contract.

"(3) REDESIGNATION.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—When the Governor of a State determines that there is good cause to enter into a contract with a second entity to provide the protection and advocacy services, the Governor shall hold an open competition within the State and issue a request for proposals by entities desiring to provide the services.

"(B) TIMING.—The Governor shall not issue such request until the first entity has been given notice and an opportunity to respond. If the first entity appeals the determination to the Secretary in accordance with paragraph (2)(C), the Governor shall issue such request only if the Secretary decides not to overturn the determination of the Governor. The Governor shall issue such request within 30 days after the end of the period during which the first entity has the opportunity to respond, or after the decision of the Secretary, as appropriate.

"(C) PROCEDURE.—Such competition shall be open to entities with the same expertise and ability to provide legal services as a system referred to in section 102(e)(20). The competition shall ensure public involvement, including a public hearing and adequate opportunity for public comment.

"(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31 of each year, the Secretary shall prepare, and submit to the President and to the Congress, a report on Federal initiatives, including the initiatives funded under this Act, to improve the access of individuals with disabilities to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(2) CONTENTS.—Such report shall include information on—

"(A) the demonstrated successes of such Federal initiatives at the Federal and State levels in improving interagency coordination, streamlining access to funding for assistive technology, and producing beneficial outcomes for users of assistive technology;

"(B) the demonstration activities carried out through the Federal initiatives to—

"(i) promote access to such funding in public programs that were in existence on the date of the initiation of the demonstration activities; and

"(ii) establish additional options for obtaining such funding;

"(C) the education and training activities carried out through the Federal initiatives to promote such access in public programs and the health care system and the efforts carried out through such activities to train professionals in a variety of relevant disciplines, and increase the competencies of the professionals with respect to technology-related assistance;

"(D) the education and training activities carried out through the Federal initiatives to train individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, individuals who work for public agencies, or for private entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities, educators and related services personnel, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals, about technology-related assistance;

"(E) the education and training activities carried out through Federal initiatives to promote awareness of available funding in public programs;

"(F) the research activities carried out through the Federal initiatives to improve understanding of the costs and benefits of access to assistive technology for individuals with disabilities who represent a variety of ages and types of disabilities;

"(G) the program outreach activities to rural and inner-city areas that are carried out through the Federal initiatives;

"(H) the activities carried out through the Federal initiatives that are targeted to reach underrepresented populations and rural populations; and

"(I) the consumer involvement activities in the programs carried out under this Act.

"(3) AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICES AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES.—As soon as practicable, the Secretary shall include in the annual report required by this subsection information on the availability of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services. When a national classification system for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services is developed pursuant to section 201, the Secretary shall report such information in a manner consistent with such national classification system.

"(f) INTERAGENCY DISABILITY COORDINATING COUNCIL.—

"(1) CONTENTS.—On or before October 1, 1995, the Interagency Disability Coordinating Council established under section 507 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794c) shall prepare and submit to the President and to the Congress a report containing—

"(A) the response of the Interagency Disability Coordinating Council to—

"(i) the findings of the National Council on Disability resulting from the study entitled 'Study on the Financing of Assistive Technology Devices and Services for Individuals with Disabilities', carried out in accordance with section 201 of this Act, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this subsection; and

"(ii) the recommendations of the National Council on Disability for legislative and administrative change, resulting from such study; and

"(B) information on any other activities of the Interagency Disability Coordinating Council that facilitate the accomplishment of section 2(b)(1) with respect to the Federal Government.

"(2) COMMENTS.—The report shall include any comments submitted by the National Council on Disability as to the appropriateness of the response described in paragraph (1)(A) and the effectiveness of the activities described in paragraph (1)(B) in meeting the needs of individuals with disabilities for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(g) EFFECT ON OTHER ASSISTANCE.—This title may not be construed as authorizing a Federal or a State agency to reduce medical or other assistance available or to alter eligibility under any other Federal law."

SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 106 (29 U.S.C. 2216) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 106. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 1994, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1998.

"(b) RESERVATIONS.—

"(1) PROVISION OF INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the funds appropriated for any fiscal year under subsection (a), the Secretary shall reserve at least 2 percent or \$1,500,000, whichever is greater, of such funds, for the purpose of providing information and technical assistance as described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) to States, individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, community-based organizations, and protection and advocacy agencies.

"(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES.—In providing such information and technical assistance to States, the Secretary shall consider the input of the directors of consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance, shall provide a clearinghouse for activities that have been developed and implemented through programs funded under this title, and shall provide information and technical assistance that—

"(i) facilitate service delivery capacity building, training of personnel from a variety of disciplines, and improvement of evaluation strategies, research, and data collection;

"(ii) foster the development and replication of effective approaches to information referral, interagency coordination of training and service delivery, outreach to underrepresented populations and rural populations, and public awareness activities;

"(iii) improve the awareness and adoption of successful approaches to increasing the availability of public and private funding for and access to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services by appropriate State agencies;

"(iv) assist in planning, developing implementing, and evaluating appropriate activities to further extend consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance;

"(v) promote effective approaches to the development of consumer-controlled systems that increase access to, funding for and awareness of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services;

"(vi) provide technical assistance and training to the entities carrying out activities funded pursuant to this title, to establish or participate in electronic communication activities with other States; and

"(vii) provide any other appropriate information and technical assistance to assist the States in accomplishing the purposes of this Act.

"(C) INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER PERSONS.—The Secretary shall provide information and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, or authorized representatives, community-based organizations, and protection and advocacy agencies, on a nationwide basis, to—

"(i) disseminate information about, and foster awareness and understanding of, Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, policies, practices, procedures, and organizational structures, that facilitate, and overcome barriers to, funding for, and access to, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, to promote fuller independence, productivity, and inclusion for individuals with disabilities of all ages;

"(ii) identify, collect, and disseminate information, and provide technical assistance, on effective systems change and advocacy activities,

"(iii) improve the understanding and use of assistive technology funding decisions made as a result of policies, practices, and procedures, or through regulations, administrative hearings, or legal actions, that enhance access to funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for individuals with disabilities;

"(iv) promote effective approaches to Federal-State coordination of programs for individuals with disabilities, through information dissemination and technical assistance activities in response to funding policy issues identified on a nationwide basis by organizations, and individuals, that improve funding for or access to assistive technology devices and assistive technology services for individuals with disabilities of all ages; and

"(v) promote effective approaches to the development of consumer-controlled systems that increase access to, funding for, and awareness of, assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, including the identification and description of mechanisms and means that successfully support self-help and peer mentoring groups for individuals with disabilities.

"(D) COORDINATION.—The Secretary shall coordinate the information and technical assistance activities carried out under subparagraph (B) or (C) with other activities funded under this Act.

"(E) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide the technical assistance and information described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements with public or private agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education, with documented experience, expertise, and capacity to carry out identified activities related to the provision of such technical assistance and information.

"(ii) ENTITIES WITH EXPERTISE IN ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE DELIVERY, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION, AND SYSTEMS CHANGE AND ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES.—For the purpose of achieving the objectives described in paragraph (1)(B), the Secretary shall reserve not less than 45 percent and not more than 55 percent of the funds reserved under subparagraph (A) for each fiscal year for grants to, or contracts or cooperative agreements with, public or private agencies or organizations with documented experience with and expertise in assistive technology service delivery, interagency coordination, and systems change and advocacy activities.

"(iii) ENTITIES WITH EXPERTISE IN ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS CHANGE AND ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES, PUBLIC FUNDING OPTIONS, AND OTHER SERVICES.—For the purpose of achieving the objectives described in paragraph (1)(C), the Secretary shall reserve not less than 45 percent and not more than 55 percent of the funds reserved under subparagraph (A) for each fiscal year for grants to, or contracts or cooperative agreements with, public or private agencies or organizations with documented experience with and expertise in—

"(I) assistive technology systems change and advocacy activities;

"(II) public funding options; and

"(III) services to increase nationwide the availability of funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(iv) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall make any grants, and enter into any contracts or cooperative agreements, under this subsection on a competitive basis. To be eligible to receive funds under this subsection an agency, organization, or institution shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information, as the Secretary may require.

"(2) ONSITE VISITS.—The Secretary may reserve, from amounts appropriated for any fiscal year under subsection (a), such sums as the Secretary considers to be necessary for the purposes

of conducting onsite visits as required by section 105(a)(2)".

SEC. 107. REPEALS.

Section 107 (20 U.S.C. 2217) is repealed.

TITLE II—PROGRAMS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

SEC. 201. NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.

Title II (29 U.S.C. 2231 et seq.) is amended by repealing part A and inserting the following:

"Subtitle A—National Classification System

"SEC. 201. CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.

"(a) SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In fiscal year 1985, the Secretary shall initiate a system development project, based on a plan developed in consultation and coordination with other appropriate Federal and State agencies, to develop a national classification system for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, with the goal of obtaining uniform data through such a system on such devices and services across public programs and information and referral networks.

"(2) PROJECT PLAN.—

"(A) REPRESENTATIVES.—In developing a plan for the system development project, the Secretary shall consult with, and coordinate activities with—

"(i) representatives of Federal agencies, including agencies that are headed by members of the Interagency Disability Coordinating Council established under section 507 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794c); and

"(ii) as determined by the Secretary, representatives of State agencies and other appropriate organizations that have responsibility for or are involved in the development and modification of assistive technology devices, the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, or the dissemination of information about assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, including recipients of grants or contracts for the provision of technical assistance to State assistive technology projects under section 106(b), assistive technology reimbursement specialists, representatives of the State assistive technology projects, and representatives of organizations involved in information and referral activities.

"(B) ISSUES.—The Secretary shall conduct such consultation, and such coordination of activities, with respect to the following:

"(i) The costs and benefits, on an agency-by-agency basis, of obtaining uniform data through a national classification system for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services across public programs and information and referral networks.

"(ii) The types of data that should be collected, including data regarding funding, across a range of programs, including the programs listed in subsection (c)(2), as appropriate.

"(iii) A methodology for developing a single taxonomy and nomenclature for both assistive technology devices and assistive technology services across a range of programs, including the programs listed in subsection (c)(2), as appropriate.

"(iv) The process for developing an appropriate data collection instrument or instruments.

"(v) A methodology for collecting data across a range of programs, including the programs listed in subsection (c)(2), as appropriate.

"(vi) The use of a national classification system by the Internal Revenue Service and State finance agencies to determine whether devices and services are assistive technology devices or assistive technology services for the purpose of determining whether a deduction or credit is allowable under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or State tax law.

"(3) CONTRACTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may carry out this section directly, or, if necessary, by entering into contracts or cooperative agreements with appropriate entities.

"(b) SINGLE TAXONOMY.—In conducting the system development project, the Secretary shall develop a national classification system that includes a single taxonomy and nomenclature for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(c) DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT.—In conducting the system development project, the Secretary shall develop a data collection instrument to—

"(1) collect data regarding funding for assistive technology devices and assistive technology services; and

"(2) collect such data from public programs, including, at a minimum—

"(A) programs carried out under title I, VI, or VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq., 795 et seq., or 796 et seq.);

"(B) programs carried out under part B or H of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq. or 1471 et seq.);

"(C) programs carried out under title V or XLX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 701 et seq. or 1396 et seq.);

"(D) programs carried out under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.); and

"(E) programs carried out under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6000 et seq.).

"(d) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall conduct the system development project in consultation with the Federal agencies that were consulted in developing the project plan.

"(e) REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIFORM DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM.—Not later than July 1, 1997, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the President and the appropriate committees of Congress a report containing—

"(1) the results of the system development project; and

"(2) the recommendations of the Secretary concerning implementation of a national classification system, including uniform data collection.

"(f) RESERVATION.—From the amounts appropriated under subtitle C for fiscal year 1995, the Secretary shall reserve up to \$200,000 to carry out this subtitle."

SEC. 202. TRAINING AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

Title II (29 U.S.C. 2231 et seq.) is amended by repealing parts B, C, and D and inserting the following:

"Subtitle B—Training and Demonstration Projects

"SEC. 211. TRAINING.

"(a) TECHNOLOGY TRAINING.—

"(1) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall make grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, appropriate public or private agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education and community-based organizations, for the purposes of—

"(A) conducting training sessions;

"(B) developing, demonstrating, disseminating, and evaluating curricula, materials, and methods used to train individuals regarding the provision of technology-related assistance, to enhance opportunities for independence, productivity, and inclusion of individuals with disabilities; and

"(C) providing training to develop awareness, skills, and competencies of service providers, consumers, and volunteers, who are located in rural areas, to increase the availability of technology-related assistance in community-based settings for rural residents who are individuals with disabilities.

"(2) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Activities conducted under grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements described in paragraph (1) may address the training needs of individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, individuals who work for public agencies, or for pri-

vate entities (including insurers), that have contact with individuals with disabilities, educators and related services personnel, technology experts (including engineers), employers, and other appropriate individuals.

"(3) **USES OF FUNDS.**—An agency or organization that receives a grant or enters into a contract or cooperative agreement under paragraph (1) may use amounts made available through the grant, contract, or agreement to—

"(A) pay for a portion of the cost of courses of training or study related to technology-related assistance; and

"(B) establish and maintain scholarships related to such courses of training or study, with such stipends and allowances as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate.

"(4) **APPLICATION.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a grant or enter into a contract or cooperative agreement under paragraph (1), an agency or organization shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

"(B) **STRATEGIES.**—At a minimum, any such application shall include a detailed description of the strategies that the agency or organization will use to recruit and train persons to provide technology-related assistance, in order to—

"(i) increase the extent to which such persons reflect the diverse populations of the United States; and

"(ii) increase the number of individuals with disabilities, and individuals who are members of minority groups, who are available to provide such assistance.

"(5) **PRIORITIES.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning in fiscal year 1994, the Secretary shall—

"(i) establish priorities for activities carried out with assistance under this subsection;

"(ii) publish such priorities in the Federal Register for the purpose of receiving public comment; and

"(iii) publish such priorities in the Federal Register in final form not later than the date on which the Secretary publishes announcements for assistance provided under this subsection.

"(B) **EXPLANATION OF DETERMINATION OF PRIORITIES.**—Concurrent with the publications required by subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register an explanation of the manner in which the priorities were determined.

"(b) **TECHNOLOGY CAREERS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—

"(A) **GRANTS.**—The Secretary shall make grants to assist public or private agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education, to prepare students and faculty working in specific fields for careers relating to the provision of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(B) **FIELDS.**—The specific fields described in subparagraph (A) may include—

"(i) engineering;

"(ii) industrial technology;

"(iii) computer science;

"(iv) communication disorders;

"(v) special education and related services;

"(vi) rehabilitation; and

"(vii) social work.

"(2) **PRIORITY.**—In awarding grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give priority to the interdisciplinary preparation of personnel who provide or who will provide technical assistance, who administer programs, or who prepare other personnel, in order to—

"(A) support the development and implementation of consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance to individuals with disabilities; and

"(B) enhance the skills and competencies of individuals involved in the provision of technology-related assistance, including assistive technology devices and assistive technology services, to individuals with disabilities.

"(3) **USES OF FUNDS.**—An agency or organization that receives a grant under paragraph (1) may use amounts made available through the grant to—

"(A) pay for a portion of the cost of courses of training or study related to technology-related assistance; and

"(B) establish and maintain scholarships related to such courses of training or study, with such stipends and allowances as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate.

"(4) **APPLICATION.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an agency or organization shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

"(B) **STRATEGIES.**—At a minimum, any such application shall include a detailed description of the strategies that the agency or organization will use to recruit and train persons to provide technology-related assistance, in order to—

"(i) increase the extent to which such persons reflect the diverse populations of the United States; and

"(ii) increase the number of individuals with disabilities, and individuals who are members of minority groups, who are available to provide such assistance.

"(C) **GRANTS TO HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES.**—In exercising the authority granted in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary shall reserve an adequate amount for grants to historically black colleges and universities and other institutions of higher education whose minority student enrollment is at least 50 percent.

"(d) **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.**

"The Secretary shall enter into an agreement with an organization whose primary function is to promote technology transfer from, and cooperation among, Federal laboratories (as defined in section 4(6) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703(6))), under which funds shall be provided to promote technology transfer that will spur the development of assistive technology devices.

"(e) **DEVICE AND EQUIPMENT REDISTRIBUTION INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND RECYCLING CENTERS.**

"(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall make grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, public agencies, private entities, or institutions of higher education for the purpose of developing and establishing recycling projects.

"(b) **PROJECT ACTIVITIES.**—Such recycling projects may include—

"(1) a system for accepting, on an unconditional gift basis, assistive technology devices, including a process for valuing the devices and evaluating their use and potential;

"(2) a system for storing and caring for such devices;

"(3) an information system (including computer databases) by which local educational agencies, rehabilitation entities, local community-based organizations, independent living centers, and other entities, would be informed, on a periodic and timely basis, about the availability and nature of the devices currently held; and

"(4) a system that makes such devices available to consumers and the entities listed in paragraph (3), and provides for tracking each device throughout the useful life of the device.

"(f) **MULTIPLE PROVIDERS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—With respect to activities funded under this section, an agency, entity, or institution may utilize a single service provider or may establish a system of service providers.

"(2) **ASSURANCES.**—If an agency, entity, or institution uses multiple providers, the agency, entity, or institution shall assure that—

"(A) all consumers within a State will receive equal access to services, regardless of the geographic location or socioeconomic status of the consumers; and

"(B) all activities of the providers will be coordinated and monitored by the agency, entity, or institution.

"(d) **OTHER LAWS.**—Nothing in this section shall affect the provision of services or devices pursuant to title I of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 720 et seq.) or part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.).

"(e) **EXISTING PROGRAMS.**—Public agencies, private entities, or institutions of higher education that have established recycling programs prior to receiving assistance under this section may use funds made available under this section to extend and strengthen such programs through grants, contracts, or agreements under this section.

"(f) **SEC. 214. BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.**

"The Secretary may make grants to individuals with disabilities to enable the individuals to establish or operate commercial or other enterprises that develop or market assistive technology devices or assistive technology services.

"(g) **SEC. 215. PRODUCTS OF UNIVERSAL DESIGN.**

"The Secretary may make grants to commercial or other enterprises and institutions of higher education for the research and development of products of universal design. In awarding such grants, the Secretary shall give preference to enterprises that are owned or operated by individuals with disabilities.

"(h) **SEC. 216. GOVERNING STANDARDS FOR ACTIVITIES.**

"Persons and entities that carry out activities pursuant to this subtitle shall—

"(1) be held to the same consumer-responsive standards as the persons and entities carrying out programs under title I;

"(2) make available to individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives information concerning technology-related assistance in a form that will allow such individuals with disabilities to effectively use such information;

"(3) in preparing such information for dissemination, consider the media-related needs of individuals with disabilities who have sensory and cognitive limitations and consider the use of auditory materials, including audio cassettes, visual materials, including video cassettes and video discs, and braille materials; and

"(4) coordinate their efforts with the consumer-responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance for individuals with disabilities in any State in which the activities are carried out.

"(i) **Subtitle C—Authorization of Appropriations**

"(j) **SEC. 221. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

"There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1994, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1998."

TITLE III—ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS

SEC. 301. ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS AUTHORIZED.

The Act (29 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"TITLE III—ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS

"SEC. 301. GENERAL AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS.

"(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall award grants to States to pay for the Federal share of the cost of the establishment and administration of, or the expansion and administration of, alternative financing mechanisms (referred to individually in this title as an 'alternative financing mechanism') to allow individuals with disabilities and their family members, guardians, and authorized representatives to purchase assistive technology devices and assistive technology services.

"(b) **MECHANISMS.**—The alternative financing mechanisms may include—

- "(1) a low-interest loan fund;
- "(2) a revolving fund;
- "(3) a loan insurance program;
- "(4) a partnership with private entities for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of assistive technology devices or the provision of assistive technology services; and
- "(5) other alternative financing mechanisms that meet the requirements of this Act and are approved by the Secretary.

"(c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as affecting the authority of a State to establish alternative financing mechanisms under title I.

"SEC. 302. APPLICATIONS AND PROCEDURES.

"(a) ELIGIBILITY.—States that receive or have received grants under section 102 or 103 shall be eligible to compete for grants under section 301.

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall make grants under section 301 under such conditions as the Secretary shall, by regulation, determine, except that—

"(1) a State may receive only 1 grant under section 301 and may only receive such a grant for 1 year under this title;

"(2) a State that desires to receive a grant under section 301 shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require, containing—

"(A) an assurance that the State will provide at least 50 percent of the cost described in section 301(a), as set forth in section 304, for the purpose of supporting the alternative financing mechanisms that are covered by the grant;

"(B) an assurance that an alternative financing mechanism will continue on a permanent basis; and

"(C) a description of the degree to which the alternative financing mechanisms to be funded under section 301 will expand and emphasize consumer choice and control;

"(3) a State that receives a grant under section 301—

"(A) shall enter into a contract, with a community-based organization (or a consortia of such organizations) that has individuals with disabilities involved at all organizational levels, for the administration of the alternative financing mechanisms that are supported under section 301; and

"(B) shall require that such community-based organization enter into a contract, for the purpose of expanding opportunities under section 301 and facilitating the administration of the alternative financing mechanisms, with—

"(i) commercial lending institutions or organizations; or

"(ii) State financing agencies; and

"(4) a contract between a State that receives a grant under section 301 and a community-based organization described in paragraph (3)—

"(A) shall include a provision regarding the administration of the Federal and the non-Federal shares in a manner consistent with the provisions of this title; and

"(B) shall include any provision required by the Secretary dealing with oversight and evaluation as may be necessary to protect the financial interests of the United States.

"SEC. 303. GRANT ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

"A State that receives a grant under section 301, together with any community-based organization that enters into a contract with the State to administer an alternative financing mechanism that is supported under section 301, shall develop and submit to the Secretary, pursuant to a timeline that the Secretary may establish or, if the Secretary does not establish a timeline, within the 12-month period beginning on the date that the State receives the grant, the following policies or procedures for administration of the mechanism:

"(1) A procedure to review and process in a timely fashion requests for financial assistance for both immediate and potential technology needs, including consideration of methods to re-

duce paperwork and duplication of effort, particularly relating to need, eligibility, and determination of the specific device or service to be provided.

"(2) A policy and procedure to assure that access to the alternative financing mechanism shall be given to consumers regardless of type of disability, age, location of residence in the State, or type of assistive technology device or assistive technology service requested and shall be made available to applicants of all income levels.

"(3) A procedure to assure consumer-controlled oversight.

"SEC. 304. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS.

"(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs described in section 301(a) shall be not more than 50 percent.

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—A State that desires to receive a grant under section 301 shall include in the application submitted under section 302 assurances that the State will meet the following requirements regarding funds supporting an alternative funding mechanism assisted under section 301:

"(1) The State shall make available the funds necessary to provide the non-Federal share of the costs described in section 301(a), in cash, from State, local, or private sources.

"(2) Funds that support an alternative financing mechanism assisted under section 301—

"(A) shall be used to supplement and not supplant other Federal, State, and local public funds expended to provide public funding options; and

"(B) may only be distributed through the entity carrying out the alternative financing mechanism as a payer of last resort for assistance that is not available in a reasonable or timely fashion from any other Federal, State, or local source.

"(3) All funds that support an alternative financing mechanism assisted under section 301, including funds repaid during the life of the mechanism, shall be placed in a permanent separate account and identified and accounted for separately from any other fund. Funds within this account may be invested in low-risk securities in which a regulated insurance company may invest under the law of the State for which the grant is provided and shall be administered with the same judgment and care that a person of prudence, discretion, and intelligence would exercise in the management of the financial affairs of such person.

"(4) Funds comprised of the principal and interest from an account described in paragraph (3) shall be available to support an alternative financing mechanism assisted under section 301. Any interest or investment income that accrues on such funds after such funds have been placed under the control of the entity administering the mechanism, but before such funds are distributed for purposes of supporting the mechanism, shall be the property of the entity administering the mechanism and shall not be taken into account by any officer or employee of the Federal Government for any purpose.

"SEC. 305. AMOUNT OF GRANTS.

"(a) AMOUNT.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a grant under section 301 shall be for an amount that is not more than \$500,000.

"(2) INCREASES.—Such a grant may be increased by any additional funds made available under subsection (b).

"(b) EXCESS FUNDS.—If funds appropriated under section 308 for a fiscal year exceed the amount necessary to fund the activities described in acceptable applications submitted under section 302 for such year, the Secretary shall make such excess amount available, on a competitive basis, to States receiving grants under section 301 for such year. A State that desires to receive additional funds under this subsection shall amend and resubmit to the Secretary the application submitted under section

302. Such amended application shall contain an assurance that the State will provide an additional amount for the purpose of supporting the alternative financing mechanisms covered by the grant that is not less than the amount of any additional funds paid to the State by the Secretary under this subsection.

"(c) INSUFFICIENT FUNDS.—If funds appropriated under section 308 for a fiscal year are not sufficient to fund each of the activities described in the acceptable applications for such year, a State whose application was approved as acceptable for such year but that did not receive a grant under section 301, may update such application for the succeeding fiscal year. Priority shall be given in such succeeding fiscal year to such updated applications, if acceptable.

"SEC. 306. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide information and technical assistance to States under this title, and the information and technical assistance shall include—

"(1) assisting States in the preparation of applications for grants under section 301;

"(2) assisting States that receive such grants in developing and implementing alternative financing mechanisms; and

"(3) providing any other information and technical assistance to assist States in accomplishing the objectives of this title.

"(b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall provide the information and technical assistance described in subsection (a) through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements with public or private agencies and organizations, including institutions of higher education, with documented experience, expertise, and capacity to assist States in the development and implementation of the alternative financing mechanisms described in section 301.

"SEC. 307. ANNUAL REPORT.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31 of each year, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress stating whether each State program to provide alternative financing mechanisms that was supported under section 301 during the year is making significant progress in achieving the objectives of this title.

"(b) CONTENTS.—The report shall include information on—

"(1) the number of applications for grants under section 301 that were received by the Secretary;

"(2) the number of grants made and the amounts of such grants;

"(3) the ratio of the amount of funds provided by each State for a State program to provide alternative financing mechanisms to the amount of Federal funds provided for such program;

"(4) the type of program to provide alternative financing mechanisms that was adopted in each State and the community-based organization (or consortia of such organizations) with which each State has entered into a contract; and

"(5) the amount of assistance given to consumers (who shall be classified by age, type of disability, type of assistive technology device or assistive technology service received, geographic distribution within the State, gender, and whether the consumers are part of an underrepresented population or a rural population).

"SEC. 308. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 1994, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1995 through 1998.

"(b) AVAILABILITY IN SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEAR.—Amounts appropriated under subsection (a) shall remain available for obligation for the fiscal year immediately following the fiscal year for which such amounts were appropriated.

"(c) RESERVATION.—Of the amounts appropriated under subsection (a), the Secretary shall reserve \$250,000 for the purpose of providing information and technical assistance to States under section 306."

TITLE IV—AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS
SEC. 401. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

Section 631(a)(1) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “; and” at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting a comma;

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting “, and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) training in the use, applications, and benefits of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services (as defined in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 3 of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988 (29 U.S.C. 2202 (2) and (3))).”

SEC. 402. REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973.

(a) NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH.—Section 202(b)(8) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 761a(b)(8)) is amended by striking “characteristics of individuals with disabilities” and inserting “characteristics of individuals with disabilities; including information on individuals with disabilities who live in rural or inner-city settings, with particular attention given to underserved populations.”

(b) TRAINING.—Section 302(b)(1)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 771a(b)(1)(B)) as added by section 302(b) of Public Law 102-569 (106 Stat. 4412), is amended—

(1) by striking “; and” at the end of clause (ii) and inserting a semicolon;

(2) by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) projects to train personnel in the use, applications, and benefits of assistive technology devices and assistive technology services (as defined in paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 3 of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988 (29 U.S.C. 2202 (2) and (3))).”

SEC. 403. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE HEAD START ACT.

Section 644(f) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9839(f)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting “, or to request approval of the purchase (after December 31, 1986) of facilities,” after “to purchase facilities”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “The Secretary shall suspend any proceedings pending against any Head Start agency to claim costs incurred in purchasing such facilities until the agency has been afforded an opportunity to apply for approval of the purchase and the Secretary has determined whether the purchase will be approved. The Secretary shall not be required to repay claims previously satisfied by Head Start agencies for costs incurred in the purchase of such facilities.”; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or that was previously purchased” before the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by inserting “, or the previous purchase has resulted,” after “purchase will result” in clause (i); and

(ii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by inserting “, or would have prevented,” after “will prevent”; and

(II) by striking “and” at the end;

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(D) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) in the case of a request regarding a previously purchased facility, information demonstrating that the facility will be used principally as a Head Start center, or a direct support facility for a Head Start program; and”

SEC. 404. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY DEVICE.—Section 7(23) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C.

706(23)), as added by section 102(n) of Public Law 102-569 (106 Stat. 4350), is amended—

(1) by striking “(1)” and inserting “(2)”; and

(2) by striking “2202(1)” and inserting “2202(2)”.

(b) ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICE.—Section 7(24) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 706(24)), as added by section 102(n) of Public Law 102-569 (106 Stat. 4350), is amended—

(1) by striking “(2)” and inserting “(3)”; and

(2) by striking “2202(2)” and inserting “2202(3)”.

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 501. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) COMPLIANCE.—Each State receiving a grant under the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988 shall comply with the amendments made by this Act—

(1) as soon as practicable after the date of the enactment of this Act, consistent with the effective and efficient administration of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988; but

(2) not later than—

(A) the next date on which the State receives an award through a grant under section 102 or 103 of such Act; or

(B) October 1, 1994,

whichever is sooner.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the bill, H.R. 2339, the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act Amendments of 1994, as modified by S. 1283, and as further modified through negotiations between the House and the Senate, hereinafter referred to as “the bill”.

I am proud to have sponsored S. 1283, the companion bill to H.R. 2339, along with Senator DURENBERGER and others. I want to especially thank Senator DURENBERGER for his excellent leadership during the reauthorization process. He has worked long and hard on this bill and deserves credit for his commitment to enhancing opportunities for people with disabilities.

I also want to thank the chairman of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, Senator KENNEDY, and the ranking minority member, Senator KASSEBAUM, for their leadership and guidance in crafting this legislation.

In addition, I want to thank our colleagues from the other body, particularly Representatives OWENS, BALLENGER, FORD, and GOODLING for their dedication and hard work in crafting the bill and in reaching the final agreement contained in the amended bill.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to the staff members who contributed to this legislation, including Bob Silverstein, Linda Hinton, and Andy Imparato of my staff; Susan Heegaard of Senator DURENBERGER’s staff; and Wendy Cramer of Senator KASSEBAUM’s staff.

In reaching this final bill, we received constructive advice from the administration and from many organizations, groups, and individuals. In particular, I want to express my gratitude

to Judy Heumann, the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services and her dedicated staff, and the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities.

As is always the case when the two Houses of Congress pass companion bills, the Senate version was not enacted in its entirety. However, I am pleased that the final bill contains all of the Senate provisions necessary to achieve the goals set out by the Subcommittee on Disability Policy for reauthorizing the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals With Disabilities Act of 1988.

Briefly, I would like to summarize some of the important provisions in the final bill. I also ask unanimous consent to include correspondence between the House and the Senate regarding the sunset provision.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit L.)

INTRODUCTION

Mr. HARKIN. In 1988, Congress passed the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act, Public Law 100-407, a law authorizing a competitive grant program to the States to enable States to designate lead agencies to coordinate activities designed to facilitate access to, provision of, and funding for, assistive technology devices and services for individuals with disabilities.

For all people, technology can provide important tools for making the performance of tasks quicker and easier. However, for some individuals with disabilities, technology is necessary to enable them to have greater control over their lives and participate fully in activities in their home, school, and work environments, and in their communities.

An assistive technology device is defined in the law to be “any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.”

H.R. 2339, The Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act Amendments of 1994, as modified by S. 1283 and as further modified through negotiations between the House and the Senate, hereinafter referred to as “the bill”, reauthorizes this competitive program for 5 years and requires States to emphasize activities that are likely to produce permanent systems change so that the progress made with grant funds will continue after those funds sunset.

MAJOR CHANGES TO TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION PERIOD AND SUNSET

The bill reauthorizes the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act for another 5 years. Although this bill reauthorizes the program for 5 years, it also clarifies that no State may receive funding under title I for more than 10 years in total.

To underscore this point, correspondence has been included in the RECORD between the chair and ranking members of the subcommittees with jurisdiction in the House and Senate which clarifies that no State shall receive funding under title I of this act for more than 10 years.

Under title I, each State is eligible to compete for one 3-year development grant; one 2-year extension grant—first extension grant; and one 5-year extension grant—second extension grant. During a State's second extension grant, Federal funds will be reduced to 75 percent of the grant amount in the fourth year and 50 percent in the fifth year, after which time Federal funding ceases. During its maximum period of 10 years of Federal funding, each State is expected to enable the program to continue on a permanent basis when Federal funding is terminated.

PRIORITY AREA ACTIVITIES

States receiving title I grants to develop and implement a consumer responsive comprehensive program of technology-related assistance will be expected to perform six specified priority systems change and advocacy activities, unless they make a showing that they are making significant progress in these areas and that other activities would be more likely to accomplish the purposes of the act. The act sets forth a range of permitted activities in addition to the priority activities.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY SERVICES

Protection and advocacy services shall be provided by each State in one of two ways. A State either may provide funds directly to a specific protection and advocacy system in that State, or a State may request that the Secretary of Education annually reserve, from the funds made available to the State under title I, an amount of funds to provide to the protection and advocacy system in that State. There is also a grandfather provision that enables States who otherwise were providing protection and advocacy services as of June 30, 1993, to continue to do so. In any case, the protection and advocacy entity is required to coordinate activities with the technology program activities in the State.

The minimum amount that a State, or the Secretary of Education on behalf of a State, must spend on protection and advocacy services shall be determined by the Secretary of Education, based on the size of the State's title I grant, the needs of individuals with disabilities within the State, the population of the State, and the geographic size of the State. Such minimum amount shall be not less than \$40,000 and not more than \$100,000. This amount will be reduced to 75 percent and 50 percent during the fourth and fifth years of a State's second extension grant, with no Federal funds available for protection and advocacy services under title I after the fifth year of the second extension grant.

The protection and advocacy service provider in each State also is subject to redesignation if significant progress is not made in providing such services to individuals with disabilities in the State.

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS

The bill includes an explicit process for a State to follow if it becomes subject to a corrective action plan, which would occur if the State does not make significant progress in developing a consumer responsive comprehensive statewide program of technology-related assistance. The process involves the development of a plan, the appointment of a monitoring panel to ensure that the plan is followed, and a recommendation from the monitoring panel to the Secretary of Education regarding whether the State lead agency should be redesignated. The Governor retains the responsibility for making any such redesignation, if the Secretary concurs with the recommendation of the monitoring panel.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Secretary of Education must provide information and technical assistance to participating States, as well as to individuals with disabilities directly. This provision requires the Secretary to meet the information and technical assistance needs not just of the State grantees, but also of individuals with disabilities and others within the States.

AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

The sum of \$50 million is authorized to carry out title I in fiscal year 1994, and such sums thereafter through fiscal year 1998. Two percent of funds appropriated, or \$1.5 million, whichever is greater, shall be reserved by the Secretary of Education for the purpose of providing information and technical assistance.

MAJOR CHANGES TO TITLE II

The Secretary of Education must develop a national classification system for assistive technology devices and services. This will be used to determine whether devices are eligible for tax deductions or credits, and for other purposes.

Title II projects include grants for training, technology transfer, recycling demonstration projects, business opportunities for individuals with disabilities, and developing projects of universal design.

The sum of \$10 million is authorized to carry out title II in fiscal year 1994, and such sums thereafter through fiscal year 1998. And \$200,000 of funds appropriated in fiscal year 1995 shall be reserved by the Secretary of Education for the purpose of developing the national classification system for assistive technology devices and services.

MAJOR CHANGES TO TITLE III

The Secretary of Education shall award one-time matching grants of not more than \$500,000 to States for the purpose of establishing alternative financing mechanisms through which

consumers can obtain funds to purchase assistive technology devices and services.

The sum of \$8 million is authorized to carry out title III in fiscal year 1994, and such sums thereafter through fiscal year 1998. \$225,000 of such funds shall be reserved for the purpose of providing States with information and technical assistance under this title.

EXHIBIT 1

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR,

Washington, DC, February 4, 1994.

Hon. TOM HARKIN,

Chairman, Subcommittee on Disability Policy,
Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee,
Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: We are writing to clarify Congressional intent in H.R. 2339 with regard to the sunset provision as it relates to a five year reauthorization for the Technology Related Assistance Act for Individuals with Disabilities.

It is our intent that States receiving grants under Title I of the Technology-Related Assistance Act for Individuals with Disabilities will receive grants under this title for not more than a total of 10 years. Included in that 10 years are: one three-year development grant, one 2-year extension of that development grant if the State demonstrates to the Secretary of Education that they have made significant progress in developing and implementing a consumer-responsive, comprehensive, statewide program of technology-related assistance, and one 5 year second extension grant based on the above requirement. In year four and five, a phase-out of the second extension grant will occur with a State receiving 75% of their grant award in year four and 50% of their grant award in year five. After the fifth and final year of the second extension grant, no State will receive any Federal funds under Title I of this Act.

While we understand your concerns that the length of the authorization for this Act should be five years for purposes of oversight, it is our intent that no State should receive Federal assistance under Title I of this Act, the State grant program, for more than ten years. As you may recall, in 1988 when this program was created, the original Congressional intent was to provide Federal seed money to States to help them develop and implement consumer-responsive, comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance. We do not believe that the Congress intended for this program to become a permanent Federal grant program and it is for that reason that we strongly support this sunset provision.

We hope that this is your understanding of the sunset and five-year reauthorization provisions of H.R. 2339 so that we can ensure this policy is clearly explained during the House and Senate floor debate when this bill is considered. We appreciate your consideration of this issue and look forward to hearing your views.

Sincerely,

MAJOR OWENS,
Member of Congress.
CASS BALLENGER
Member of Congress.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, February 7, 1994.

HON. MAJOR OWENS,
HON. CASS BALLENGER,
Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil
Rights, Committee on Education and Labor,
Rayburn House Office Building, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. OWENS AND MR. BALLENGER: We
are in receipt of your February 4, 1994 letters
seeking a clarification of congressional in-
tent in H.R. 2339 with regard to the sunset
provision as it relates to a five year reau-
thorization for the Technology-Related As-
sistance for Individuals with Disabilities
Act.

We fully concur with your understanding
of the policy in the bill regarding the above
referenced provisions.

Sincerely,

TOM HARKIN,
Chair, Subcommittee
on Disability Policy.
DAVID DURENBERGER,
Ranking, Subcommit-
tee on Disability
Policy.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, I
move that the Senate concur in the
House amendment.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, I
move to reconsider the action by which
the motion was agreed to.

Mr. DOLE. I move to lay that motion
on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was
agreed to.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, my
understanding is that there is now to
be a period for morning business. We
are awaiting clearance on one final
matter regarding the Federal employ-
ees management legislation. Therefore,
I will be pleased to yield the floor at
this time.

I understand the Republican leader
has a statement. And then when we get
clearance on that matter, which I hope
to be shortly, we will proceed to that.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pora. Under the previous order, there
will now be a period for the transaction
of morning business with Senators per-
mitted to speak therein for not to ex-
ceed 10 minutes each.

The Republican leader is recognized.

ACQUITTAL OF SENATOR KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I rise
today to report some great news for
the Senate which should be welcomed
universally on both sides of the aisle.
Our colleague from Texas, KAY BAILEY
HUTCHISON, was acquitted today of
charges brought against her in a court
in Fort Worth. This is great news for
KAY and her husband Ray, great news
for the people of Texas, and great news
for the Senate.

My view has always been that the
charges brought against Senator

HUTCHISON were a politically motivated
attempt at character assassination.
The real crime here was letting fair-
ness take a back seat to politics. Polit-
ical show trials have no place in Texas,
and no place in America. Today's ac-
quittal confirms what we have been
saying all along.

And hopefully this verdict today will
set a valuable example—it is time to
stop politically motivated legal harass-
ment of public officials, whether they
are Democrat or Republican. If a legiti-
mate case can be made, that is one
thing. But, as today's verdict indicates,
these things can get out of hand. When
the facts are not there to support a legi-
timate prosecution—no matter
whether you are a Democrat or a Re-
publican—it is nothing more than a po-
litically motivated witch hunt. That is
a shame, and it has to stop.

I hope that is one thing that comes
out of this effort by this district attor-
ney, who unsuccessfully a couple of
times started a trial and today finally
gave up.

I had the opportunity of speaking
with Senator HUTCHISON about an hour
ago. Obviously, she is elated, and
should be, and feels she has been exon-
erated, as she has, and vindicated, as
she has. And I know she looks forward
to returning to the Senate when we
come back from the recess.

I know I speak for all of my col-
leagues when I say we look forward to
welcoming back this dedicated and tal-
ented public servant.

Mr. WARNER addressed the Chair.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pora. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I com-
mend our distinguished Republican
leader. Our faith in our colleague from
Texas never wavered a moment on this
side of the aisle. Indeed, I think that
sentiment was shared by many on the
other side of the aisle. This woman in
many respects has a badge of courage
and firmness that I wish more of us
had.

Mr. President, I would like now to be
recognized as if in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tem-
pora. The Senator is recognized for up
to 10 minutes.

THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President,
Wednesday evening, I was privileged to
be included in the congressional leader-
ship group that went to the White
House to consult with the President of
the United States and members of his
Cabinet and other senior advisers on a
range of foreign policy issues, but pri-
marily those relating to Bosnia.

At that meeting, I expressed my con-
cerns about an expanded use of air
power in Bosnia. I have done that
many times on this floor, most often in
conjunction with our noted and experi-
enced colleague, Senator MCCAIN.

I also expressed my belief that it is
essential, and I repeat—it is essential—
that the Congress at the earliest oppor-

tunity begin a full and thorough debate
regarding the next evolution of the
Bosnia policy. We should do that before
committing our men and women of the
Armed Forces to what appears to be a
tragic and never-ending conflict.

Bosnia, in my judgment, poses one of
the most complex political-diplomatic-
military equations that we have had to
face in recent time.

We have great compassion for the
suffering of the Bosnian people, suffer-
ing which has been vividly portrayed to
us through vivid television coverage.
We are moved; we are concerned; we
are compassionate. But we must not
let our foreign policy be dictated by
our emotions. We must carefully, pa-
tiently, and thoroughly assess what the
strategic interests of this country are
in that part of the world, and the ex-
tent to which we are willing to commit
our Armed Forces and our tax dollars
to resolve that conflict.

We must try to understand the com-
plexity of the conflict. There is so lit-
tle clarity. There are so few options.
Yet, we are now faced with a new po-
licy, a policy by which we are going to
become more heavily committed mili-
tarily in that conflict. For some period
of time, our naval forces, our air
forces, and some small elements of
other types of our military forces have
been engaged in various noncombat
missions in Bosnia. But now we are on
the brink of involving ourselves in out-
right combat situations with the use of
air power.

The Congress is now confronted with
a situation with certain parallels to
our experience in Somalia. From the
time the Somalia operation was trans-
ferred to United Nations control in
May 1993, the objectives of United
States policy and the mission of United
States military forces went through a
series of evolutions.

Few in Congress expressed our views
as we went from one evolution to the
next. I have gone back and read the
RECORD on this issue. One or two Mem-
bers addressed this body, but we as a
body really did not give that serious
situation the attention it deserved, nor
did we go on record with a vote and ex-
press ourselves with clarity, prior to
the tragic events of October 3-4 in So-
malia.

The Congress followed the proper
course prior to the Persian Gulf con-
flict. I brought with me today the reso-
lution that was adopted by this body,
Senate Joint Resolution 2, where by a
very narrow margin of but five votes,
we expressed with clarity our intention
to back the President of the United
States and to give him the discretion
as Commander in Chief to utilize force
when and if he believed it was nec-
essary in the Persian Gulf operation.
Together with our allies, that oper-
ation was brought to a successful con-
clusion.

I return, however, to Somalia. Again,
we had a series of policy evolutions,
with very little attention given by the
Congress to the charges. And then, on

COMMENTS ON LRM #m-1154

NOTE; not all changes from prior draft are in bold

1. Title, "Priority: Home!" is visually and substantively confusing. Alternatives have been suggested or other ones could be devised. Some agencies, such as HHS, I believe prefer a title like "Heading Home" which suggests the direction of our policy and doesn't focus as much on one element of the solution, housing. If a change is made, conform on page iv

2. p.2 why are we highlighting the 7 million estimate when that number is so uncertain, the study on which it is based so recent and surprising, and the figure 7,000,000 not even mentioned in the study?

3. p. 3 & 11 "chronic disability refers to homeless persons with"

increase of HUD budget rt "nearly 2 billion...." previously 1 billion OMB has alternative language

4. add something on homeless children. I previously suggested words along the lines: **Another significant segment of America's homeless citizens are families with children.ften overlooked segment of the**

p. 1 homeless people as symptoms of urban decay??

p. 3 chronic disability reference is unclear

p. 4 grammar

p. 5 "

p. 6 Douglas Commission_Report" 2nd time

Typographical errors and omissions on pages;

unnumbered front page with quotes

" table of contents

unnumbered Executive Order 12848;

Appendix A



FOUNDATION
— for —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

June 20, 1994

Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Second Floor, West Wing
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

JUN 21 REC'D

Dear Ms. Rasco:

On behalf of the entire Alliance for Technology Access, I want to thank you for accepting our invitation to speak at our upcoming annual Institute. We are delighted to know that you will be available to keynote our luncheon on Tuesday, July 19, 1994. This letter is intended to confirm the date and time of your speech.

The luncheon will take place at the site of our meeting, the Sheraton City Centre Hotel in the City Centre Ballroom. It is located at:
1143 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

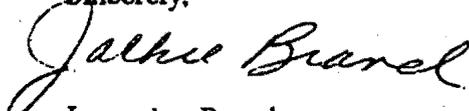
The luncheon will begin at 12:00, with your speech immediately following the meal. We have allowed until 2:00 for the lunch and your speech.

As you know, our organization is concerned with access to enabling technology for children and adults with disabilities. However, as parents and consumers, we are concerned with a wide range of issues which will directly affect us. We would be pleased to have you speak about whichever topic may be of most interest to you, including key domestic agenda items of the Clinton administration which are important to people with disabilities and their families.

I have enclosed a copy of the agenda for your information. If you have any further questions regarding this event, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be in touch with Pat Romani to ensure that your participation is both enjoyable and inspiring for you. We know you will provide us with great vision and direction.

We look forward to meeting you on July 19th. Again, thank you so much for your gracious acceptance.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn Brand

DRAFT

**Seventh Annual Training Institute
Alliance for Technology Access
July 17-21, 1994
Sheraton City Centre Hotel
1143 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.**

Sunday, July 17

7 PM Opening Keynote: Judy Heumann, Assistant Secretary of Education,
 Reception for the Assistant Secretary co-sponsored by Edmark Corporation

Monday, July 18

8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
 Opening Session
 Keynote: Joseph Shapiro, US News and World Report, author of
 No Pity, a history of the disability rights movement

10:15 AM Concurrent Sessions on topics concerning assistive technology,
 and issues facing those operating technology resource centers

11:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

12:30 PM Lunch and Round Table Discussions on issues of common concern
 to ATA members

2:45 PM Concurrent Sessions

4:00 PM Invited panel: Chris Button, UCPA; Sen. Thomas Harkin or his legislative aide;
 Legislative issues regarding disability and assistive technology

6:00 PM Dinner on your own

7:30 PM Vendor Expo: ATA center representatives will learn about new developments from
 affiliated assistive technology vendors

Tuesday, July 19

8:30 AM Welcome and breakfast sponsored by Skills Bank
 Opening Speaker: Kathy Hurley, Software Publishers Assoc, Skills Bank
 Keynote: Rick Douglas, Executive Director, President's Committee on
 Employment of People with Disabilities

9:45 AM Concurrent Sessions
 Including sessions on non-profit management, coordinated and
 sponsored by Sylvia Clark, NEC Foundation of America
 Paul Hearne, Dole Foundation & Funding Partnership

- 11:00 AM Concurrent Sessions
- 12:00 PM Luncheon
Keynote: Carol Rasco, Chief Domestic Policy Advisor to President Clinton
- 2:15 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 3:30 PM Concurrent Sessions
- 4:45 PM Vendor Forum: Enhancing collaboration between centers and vendors, and discussion of product needs
- 6:15 PM Dinner on your own
- 8:00 PM ATA Celebrates

Wednesday, July 20

- 8:30 AM Continental Breakfast
Discussion of the Reauthorized Technology Related Assistance Act with Carol Cohen, NIDRR
Cracker barrel session on the topic of ATA centers and the Tech Act
- 10:00 AM Open labs, small group meetings, center help, mentoring
- 10:00 - 4:00 Visit your congressional representatives
- 4:00 - 6:00 Reception at USA TODAY; Joan Baraloto, Director Education and Family Initiatives, USA Today
Speaker: Bob Williams, Commissioner, Admin. on Developmental Disabilities (not confirmed)
Announcement of our new book, *Computer Resources for People with Disabilities*
Premier showing of new Alliance video

Thursday, July 21

- 9:00 AM Ramping the Superhighway for Access
Opening speaker: John Schweizer, Manager, Consumer Affairs, Pacific Bell
Additional speakers to be announced, including representatives of Regional Bell Operating Companies
- 12:00 PM Luncheon: Speaker to be Announced
Vice President Albert Gore has been invited but not confirmed
- 1:30 PM "Building A Vision for the Future"
facilitated session of the Alliance for Technology Access
- 5:00 PM Adjournment



FOUNDATION
— *for* —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

Alliance for Technology Access
7th Annual
Training Institute
Sheraton City Centre
Washington, D.C.
July 17 - 21, 1994

National Training

Hands-on training on the latest technology
Connecting to the Superhighway
Collaboration with leading product developers

National Forums

Universal Access
|| Inclusion in Schools
|| ADA Implementation
The New Tech Act
Ramping the Superhighway

National Participation

|| Experts in assistive technology
Technology developers and vendors
Leading advocates on public policy
Consumers with disabilities and family members
Key government representatives
Educators

Join us this summer in Washington, D.C.

Foundation for Technology Access, 2173 East Francisco Blvd., Suite L, San Rafael, CA 94901
415/455-4575 • 415/455-0654 fax • E-mail: ATA_FTA@AOL.COM

Appendix B



FOUNDATION
— for —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

June 14, 1994

Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Second Floor, West Wing
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

Your support and encouragement of our mission to promote assistive technologies for children and adults with disabilities is deeply appreciated. I know that your personal involvement with our center in Little Rock, under the able direction of Ginny Heiple, gives you the direct experience to understand the importance of our work, and we're extremely grateful for your interest and support. Our organization, the Foundation for Technology Access, is committed to helping communities across the nation obtain information about and access to empowering technology through its coalition of community based, consumer directed organizations called the Alliance for Technology Access.

The Alliance for Technology Access seeks to redefine human potential by making technology a regular part of the lives of people with disabilities. We strive to accomplish this goal by providing community access to conventional and assistive technologies, related services, and information resources which enable people to achieve productivity, independence, social interdependence and success according to their own needs and interests.

Our centers worked with nearly 100,000 people last year, introducing them to state-of-the-art technology which would allow them to go to school with non-disabled peers, enter the job market, or perhaps even communicate with family members for the first time. Further, these centers worked with over a thousand community agencies serving adults with disabilities, over 1,400 public school systems and over 200 universities and colleges. We have learned, as you have, how important access to these tools and related information services and support are to a very large segment of the population.

Our annual training Institute is fast approaching, and will take place this summer, from July 17 - 21, 1994 in Washington, D.C at the Sheraton City Centre Hotel. We hope you will be able to join us as a presenter and a participant. We will be training our center staff and assembling all the assistive technology developers and vendors, as well as attempting to raise the profile of assistive technology nationwide among our Congressional and government agency representatives. We want to share our stories of empowerment and employment with those individuals in Washington who are charged with forging strong economic and education plans, especially those who may still question the importance of technology to those plans.

See
next
pp

We are requesting your participation as a keynote speaker during the Institute. Ideal for us would be any of the following times, in our priority order:

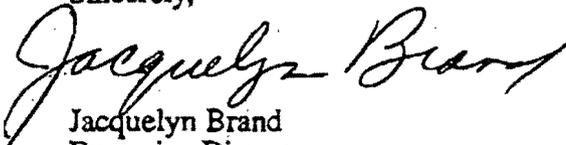
- ✗ Wednesday, July 20 between four and six in the afternoon during a public event either at USA Today or a room reserved at the Senate Office Building. I'm not certain about proper protocol, but would be pleased to plan the event in a way that works for you.
- ✗ Monday, July 18 at our opening keynote at 8:30 am
- Tuesday, July 19 at our luncheon *Best for CWR*
- Thursday, July 21 will be our morning focused on access to the Information Superhighway

Again, we would be pleased to arrange or rearrange our schedule in order to accommodate your busy schedule.

We want our Summer Training Institute to be an event which will dramatically showcase just how powerful technology can be. During the Institute we will be debuting our new book on assistive technologies which has a Foreword written by Stephen Hawking and which will be marketed through mainstream bookstores. In addition, we will also debut a new 10-minute videotape on the power of assistive technologies and the work of the Alliance for Technology Access which was produced with funding from IBM Corporation.

We hope you can join us at the Institute this summer. It would be a great honor to have your participation. Thank you for considering our request. We hope to see you in Washington this summer.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn Brand
Executive Director

October 28, 1993

First Lady Hillary Clinton
West Wing
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

As the parent of a teenager with multiple disabilities, and the Director of the Alliance for Technology Access, I am writing to invite you to join a most extraordinary group of people in Washington at the occasion of our Institute '94. Because of your great interest in and involvement with families, along with the administration's deep understanding of the potential role of emerging technologies for all Americans, we think you may find our work both compelling and inspirational.

Technology is changing daily what it means to have a disability, making it possible for people to accomplish what they might never have previously even imagined. Our organization, the Alliance for Technology Access, represents families and professionals who have come together to redefine human potential by making technology a regular part of the lives of people with disabilities. We strive to accomplish this goal by providing access in a community setting to conventional and assistive technologies, related services, and information resources which enable people to achieve productivity, independence, social interdependence and success according to their own needs and interests.

An outstanding example of our efforts is located, as you may know, in Little Rock. With the motto, "giving people with disabilities the power to do more through technology," the Arkansas Technology Resource Center (TRC) provides information, support, and hands-on computer experiences to families trying to figure out how technology can help their kids. Just as Janet Hargett (Board member) and Ginny Heiple (Director) galvanized the people and resources of Little Rock to build the incredible organization that is TRC of Arkansas Easter Seal Society, others have been building similar programs in 45 other cities across 34 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands for the past six years. Like the center in Little Rock, Alliance centers were created by family members committed to finding and providing the best resources available for their children. Carol Rasco, whom we are also contacting, has participated in the Little Rock program with her son, Hamp, for many years, and can attest to the value of this program for so many.

Our centers work with approximately 100,000 people each year, introducing them to state-of-the-art technology which allows them to go to school with non-disabled peers, enter the job market, or perhaps even communicate with family members for the first time. We have learned, as you have, how important access to these tools and related services and support are to a very large segment of our population. In fact, one of the most memorable moments of President Clinton's Town Hall meeting with children this year focused on two sisters who represent the new generation of individuals with disabilities that have high expectations for themselves and our society as a whole. Anastasia Somoza's sister, like many children with disabilities, is using technology today to express her unique talents and skills. We're focused on reaching the tens of thousands of youngsters and adults who have not yet discovered the transformational power of technology.

The Alliance was born out of a desire to demonstrate how technology can be used by everyone to transform limitations into opportunities. For no other group are the benefits of technology so obvious, so powerful, and so imperative. As a community which represents some 43 million Americans with disabilities, we are proud to have leadership in Washington which recognizes the vast and untapped potential of all Americans, including people with disabilities. In the spirit of a new and ambitious agenda for America which proclaims we don't have a person to waste, we see the continued development and utilization of technology as the key to fuller and more productive lives for our constituents.

To further this shared goal, each year at our Institute we bring together families, individuals with disabilities, professionals and technology gurus from across the nation and immerse ourselves in the important issues of technology access, technology services and even technology design. > Institute '94 might very well provide an important platform on which we can all work together to reach a shared vision for America—one in which all people are empowered to attain their dreams and no one is "wasted."

We would be honored to have you keynote our Institute next summer in Washington. It will take place from July 18-21, 1994 at the Sheraton City Centre Hotel in Washington, DC, and will be attended by some 250 people. More information will be sent to you via Janet Hargett of TRC. Janet has been a volunteer in President Clinton's campaign, and is currently volunteering at the President's Office in Little Rock.

Thank you for considering our request. It would be a great honor to have your participation and support.

Sincerely,



Jacquelyn Brand
Executive Director

cc: Carol Rasco

Services

- Augmentative and alternative communication evaluations on a fee for service basis
- Training, consultations, and technical support on a fee for service basis
- Workshops and presentations on augmentative and alternative communication
- Lending library of books, periodicals, and videotapes on augmentative and alternative communication
- Hands on experience with augmentative and alternative communication devices and other assistive technology
- Information dissemination about augmentative and alternative communication upon request
- Provides payment options that include Medicare, Medicaid (EPSDT screened clients), CMS, Private Insurance, MasterCard, and VISA

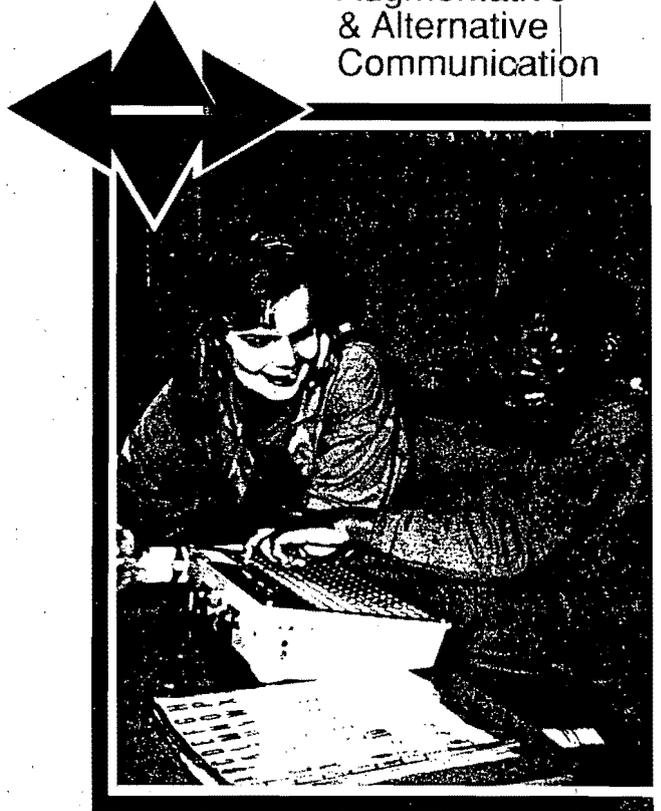
For more information, contact:
Arkansas Technology Resource Center
Arkansas Easter Seal Society
Ginny Heiple, M.Ed., Director
2801 Lee Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72205
(501) 663-8331
TDD/FAX (501) 664-1546



ALLIANCE
— for —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

Arkansas Technology Resource Center

Augmentative
& Alternative
Communication



...giving people with disabilities the power to speak using technology.



The Arkansas Technology Resource Center located at the Arkansas Easter Seal Society is a computer and assistive device resource center available to all persons with disabilities, their families, and friends. The Arkansas Technology Resource Center is a member of the Alliance for Technology Access and provides "hands-on" experience with Apple, Macintosh, IBM computers, software, and other assistive devices.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication Services

If an individual is nonspeaking or if his speech is so impaired that he can not be understood when he talks, he can learn to communicate using various aids that supplement or replace speech. Some of these communication aids are very simple and can be made from paper, pen, or plastic. Others are very "high tech" and involve computers and voice synthesizers. The Augmentative and Alternative Communication Team at the Arkansas Technology Resource Center evaluates the needs of the person, makes recommendations of appropriate communication aids and techniques, and trains the user, his family, and others on how to use the recommended devices.

Our Augmentative and Alternative Communication Services were recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 1985 as one of the top eleven Model Outreach Sites in Augmentative and Alternative Communication in the United States.

Goals

The goal is to evaluate the augmentative and alternative communication needs of people with severe speech disorders, make appropriate equipment recommendations, and provide training and technical support to the users, their families, and others.

Eligibility

Any adult or child whose communication disorder is congenital (i.e., cerebral palsy, mental retardation, etc.), acquired (i.e., head injury, stroke, etc.), or temporary (i.e., shock, trauma, surgery, etc.) and is in need of communication is eligible for services. The person must have a physician's referral.



Staff

The Augmentative and Alternative Communication Services Team is made up of professionals (speech-language pathologists, physical/occupational therapist, special educators, engineers, etc.) and others with numerous years of experience and expertise in augmentative and alternative communication. Because this is such a specialized and changing field, it is vital to have services provided by people who have practical experience with augmentative and alternative communication and who are committed to keeping up with current trends and equipment.

___ I'd like to become a member of the **Arkansas Technology Resource Center**. I'm enclosing a \$20.00 tax deductible donation.

Members:

- Receive a newsletter quarterly
- May attend all regular Center Workshops without a fee
- Receive a reduced loan fee on valuable equipment
- Are given priority on equipment loan
- Are helping the center to operate

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

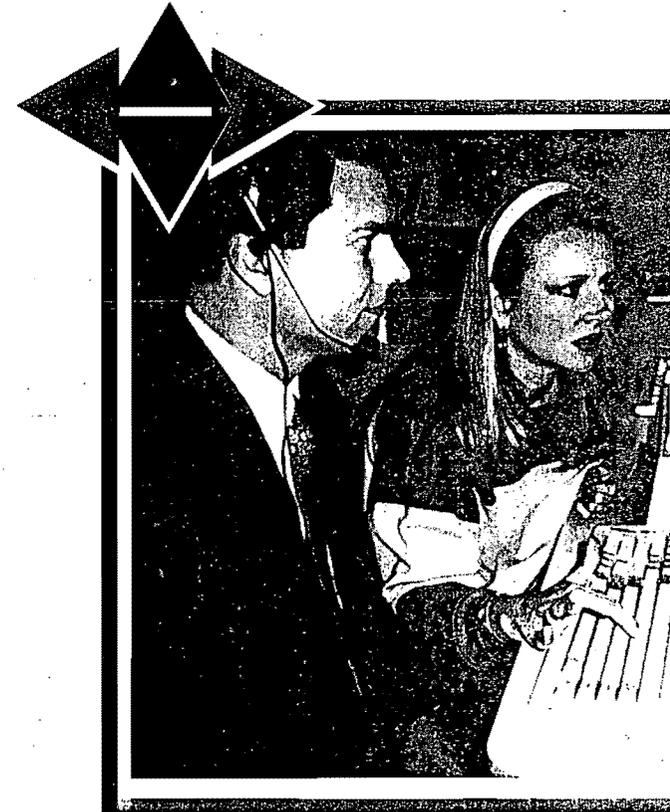
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City: _____ State: _____

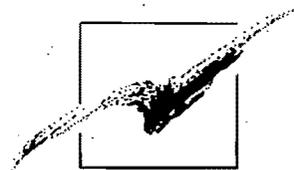
ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

Arkansas Technology Resource Center



...giving people with disabilities the power to do more through technology



ALLIANCE
— for —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS



Arkansas Technology Resource Center, located at the Arkansas Easter Seal Society, is a computer and assistive device resource center available to all persons with disabilities, their families, and others who are interested in technology.

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center is a member of the Alliance for Technology Access which is a national network of 46 assistive technology centers, vendors, and researchers.

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center is a regional site for IBM's Offering for Persons with Disabilities. Two Technology Access Centers, providing special assistive technology services in the areas of augmentative and alternative communication, computer access, learning disabilities, and cognitive rehabilitation, are located in the Arkansas Technology Resource Center. These Technology Access Centers are a member of the Increasing Capabilities Access Network which is funded by the Arkansas Division of Rehabilitation Services through Public Law 100-407.

Augmentative & Alternative Communication Services, which is located at the Center, provide evaluations and treatment for individuals who are non-speaking or have unintelligible speech. This service was selected by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association as one of eleven model sites in the United States for the provision of augmentative and alternative communication services.

Mission

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center is a resource center which assists persons with differing abilities achieving their social, educational, and vocational potential through the use of assistive technology.

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center holds paramount the right of persons with differing abilities to receive appropriate assistive technology and quality services.



Operations

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center's hours of operation are from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. In addition to regular center hours, extended hours, known as Resource Time, are scheduled periodically to accommodate individuals who are unable to visit during regular hours of operation.

Individuals and groups who wish to visit the Center should call and schedule an appointment. User, support, and special needs groups are encouraged to schedule the Center for one of their meetings.

Services

- Provides technology evaluations in augmentative and alternative communication, computer access, and environmental controls on a fee for service basis
- Provides hands on experience with computers and software
- Provides information about assistive technology upon request
- Has a technology loan library for members
- Schedules workshops on technology topics on a regular basis
- Provides technology consultations, assistance, and training on a fee for service basis
- Provides special summer technology day camps and activities

Staff

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center is staffed by professionals with Master Degrees in education and speech-language pathology. The center conducts client and family centered evaluations in augmentative and alternative communication, computer access, and environmental controls using a team approach which may include a speech-language pathologist, computer specialist, physical or occupational therapist, and engineer.

TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

A NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER

Vol. 2, Number 2

Spring, 1992

Tools for Living... A Guide for Aging Arkansans

Generally, as people get older their health care and daily living needs change. However, the need to be as independent as possible does not change -- everyone has this basic need.

Through the use of "tools for living", most persons in Arkansas can be more independent. These tools can be very simple, such as eyeglasses and lowered cabinets, or complex, such as powered wheelchairs and computer controlled home living systems. Tools for living often give persons a way to get around in the home and community, to take care of their health care needs, to enjoy a wider range of recreational pursuits, and to remain active in daily living activities.

These are but just a few ways in which tools for living can help persons.

The *Tools for Living* guide was designed for elderly individuals in Arkansas and for professionals working with them. It provides information about obtaining and using tools for living. The Guide shows persons ways to work with agencies and organizations to see that tools needed by individuals are provided. It is intended to be an introduction to the process of getting needed tools for living into the hands of persons who need it.

Free copies of *Tools for living...A guide for Aging Arkansans* can be obtained from the Arkansas Technology Resource Center.



Enlarged keys makes using the phone easier.

Photo source: American Association of Retired Persons (1986). Making life a little easier: Self-help tool for the home. Washington, D.C.: Author. Reprinted with permission.

ECHO Housing

FRIENDS OF THE CENTER

DAVID & MARGARET COLE
ELLEN CORLEY
JENNY ERICKSON
CHARLOTTE GADBERRY
CINDY LLOYD
KAREN MASSEY
CATHIE MUELLER
SANDY NEHUS
SUE NESTRUD
MR. & MRS. R. REMMEL
MADELON SCALLET
PAUL SHUFFIELD, JR.
CYNTHIA SINGLETARY
JANCIE SISK
ALAN VANBIERVIET
MARTY WALTON
DEBBIE WILSON
REBECCA WOOD

ALTHIEMER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ARKANSAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
ARKANSAS PEDIATRIC FACILITY
BENTONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BRYANT SCHOOL DISTRICT
CHICOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DAWSON EDUCATIONAL COOP.
GREENWOOD SCHOOLS
JOHNSON CO. SPECIAL ED. COOP.
LITTLE ROCK LAB SCHOOL
SHERIDAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SOUTHSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ECHO stands for Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity. ECHO is a housing arrangement which offers the elder person an opportunity to live in close proximity to those who can help him or her maintain independence and privacy. The following information comes from a publication from AARP, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational and social welfare organization which promotes independence, dignity and purpose for older persons.

An ECHO unit is a small house set on the side or back yard of an existing family home. This structure is designed to serve the individual needs of infirmed, or disabled, as well as able-bodied, older Americans. The ECHO concept involves maintaining individual dignity while providing the kinds of support needed by an elder family member.

The size of ECHO units vary. The minimum recommended size is 280 square feet for single occupancy, and 400 square feet for two persons. These ECHO houses are intended for temporary placement on residential lots. The size of each unit is based on the number of occupants, the size of the primary dwelling, the size of the lot, the units placement on the property, and its portability.

REGIONAL TRAININGS

Join us when we come to your town for the following regional trainings:

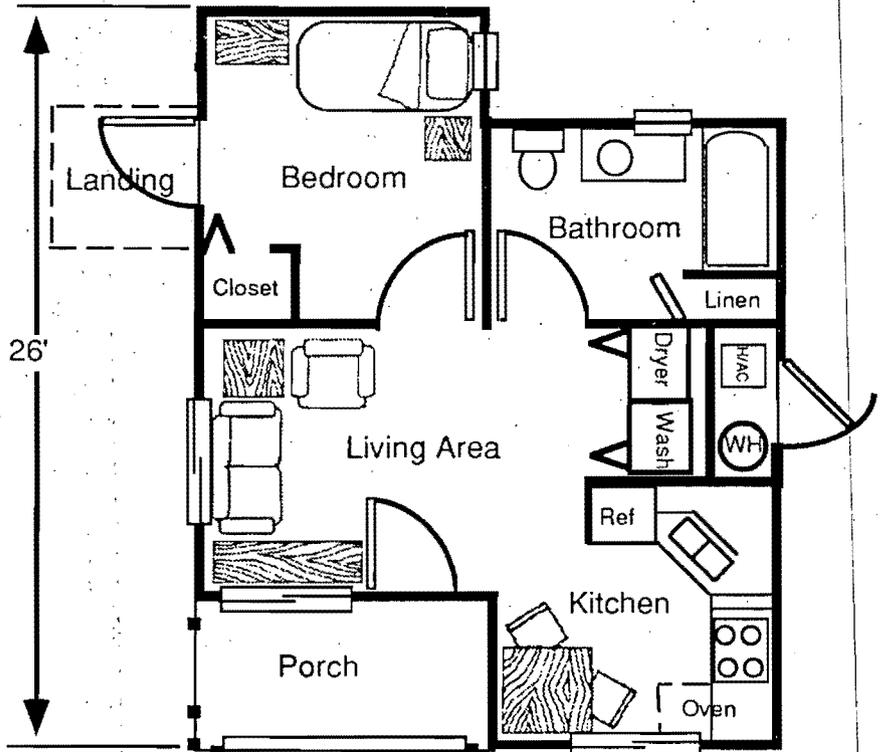
* July 10 - Marshall (CMS Clinic)
Searcy County Health Department

* August 19 - Batesville
Division of Rehab. Services

* August 27 - El Dorado
El Dorado High School

* September 24 - Hope
S. W. Ark. Ed. Co-op.

For more information contact:
Susan Plegge (501)663-8331

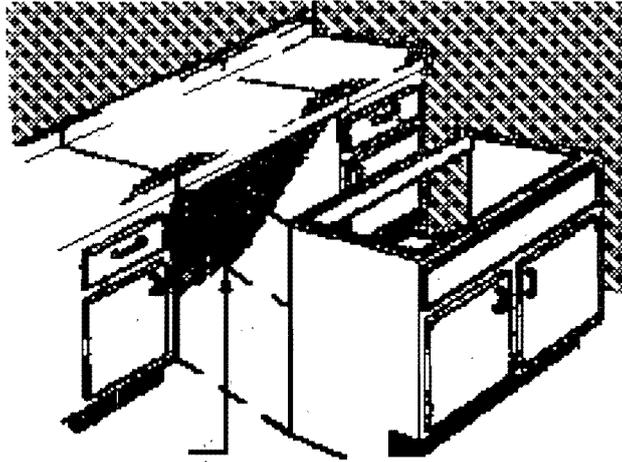


Floor plans for a single bedroom ECHO home.

Incorporated into these structures is an approach called adaptable housing. Adaptable housing is accessible housing that does not look different from other housing and which has features that can be easily adjusted, added, or removed as needed.

There are three principle elements of adaptable housing, these are: (1) removable base cabinets; (2) segments of counters that can be adjusted in height; (3) reinforced wall areas so grab bars can be attached and removed in bathrooms, bedrooms, and other areas as needed by the occupants.

If you would like further information on ECHO housing contact The American As-



Removable cabinet and adjustable height counter.

sociation of Retired Persons 1909 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20049. Direct your inquiry to the Housing Program, ask for ECHO Housing, Recommending Construction and Installation Standards: ECHO Housing, a review of zoning issues and other considerations.

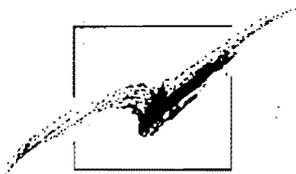
For more information on

adaptable housing contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Special Advisor for Handicapped Programs, 451 7th Street, S.W., Room 10140, Washington, D.C. 20410, ask for publication # HUD-1124-PDR.

Other publication: *The Doable Renewable Home*, contact the American Association of Retired Persons, Consumer Affairs Program, 1909 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20049.

All of these publications are available at the Department of Human Services, Arkansas Office on Aging, Donaghey Building, Room 1428, 7th and Main St., Little Rock, AR 72205.

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___ I'd like to become a member of the Arkansas Technology Resource Center. I'm enclosing a \$20.00 tax deductible donation.

Members:

- Receive a newsletter quarterly
- May attend all regular center workshops without a fee
- Receive a reduced loan fee on valuable equipment
- Are given priority on equipment loan
- Are helping the center to operate

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: _____

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

JUNE

22 - 26, Monday-Friday
9 a.m. - 12 noon.
"Augmentative Communication
Camp" Cost: \$45.00. To register
contact: Susan Plegge at
(501)663-8331.

JULY

15 - 16, Wednesday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
"Getting Started Workshop"
Sponsored by Prentke
Romich Company (PRC)
To register, contact: PRC
1(800)262-1984



JULY

20 - 24, Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 12 noon "Computer
Camp for Learning
Disabilities" Cost: \$45.00
To register, contact: Susan
Plegge at (501)663-8331

25, Saturday, 10:00 a.m.
Augmentative Communication
Parents Support Group. For
more information contact:
Susan Plegge (501)663-8331.

DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

ARKANSAS TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER PROVIDES

- * Hands-on experiences with computers and software
- * Information about assistive technology on request
- * Access to a technology loan library for members
- * Technology evaluations in augmentative communication and computer access on a fee-for-service basis.
- * Monthly workshops on technology topics
- * Technology consultations, assistance, and training on a fee-for service basis.

This newsletter was developed in part under a grant from the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS), Department of Human Services from funds received by Arkansas under Title I, P.L. 100-407 Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988. It is funded by a grant (H224A90020-91) by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, (NIDRR), U. S. Department of Education. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of DRS or NIDRR, U. S. Department of Education and do not imply endorsement by the U. S. Government.

**Arkansas Technology
Resource Center**
AR Easter Seal Society
2801 Lee Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72205

ICAN TECHNOLOGY ACCESS CENTERS

Blind & Visually Impaired
Lions World Services for the Blind
Jan Lynch
(501)664-7100 (Voice)
(501)664-7403 (TDD)

Communication & Computer Access
Arkansas Easter Seal Society
Nancy Dunn
(501)663-8331 (Voice)
(501)663-8054 (TDD)
(501)664-1546 (FAX)

Deaf & Hard of Hearing
University of Ark. at Little Rock
Dept. of Audiology & Speech
Dr. Hope Keiser
(501)569-8905 (Voice and TDD)

Independent Living
Life Styles, Inc.
Doris Culver
(501)521-3581 (Voice)
(501)521-5415 (TDD)
(501)521-8476 (FAX)

Language & Learning
Arkansas Easter Seal Society
Ginny Heiple
(501)663-8331 (Voice)
(501)663-8054 (TDD)
(501)664-1546 (FAX)

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TECHNICALLY SPEAKING

A NEWSLETTER OF THE ARKANSAS TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER

Vol. 1, Number 2

Summer, 1991



Alliance for Technology Access Receives Gift from IBM

IBM recently loaned educational software to the Alliance for Technology Access (ATA) to support ATA's services to special education students across the country. The software, valued at \$250,000.00, was loaned to ATA at no cost.

The ATA is a non-profit organization that empowers persons with disabilities to control their own lives using technology. It operates 46 resource centers around the country.

Through the IBM loan program, the ATA received products to teach reading, language arts, math and science skills, as well as products to assist persons with hearing, vision and speech disabilities.

The Arkansas Technology Resource Center was selected as one of the ATA centers to receive this software. Some of the IBM software available for preview through this loan include the *Reading For Information Series™*, the *Reading for Meaning Series™*, *Primary Editor Plus™*, and *Math Exploration Toolkit™*. The software may be previewed by contacting the Center for an appointment.



Summer Activities

Summer of 1991 has been an exciting time for the Resource Center. During June, the center held an augmentative and alternative communication camp for nonspeaking children in grades kindergarten through third. The kids spent a fun-filled week at our imaginary "Disneyland" and participated in such activities as computer play, games, "reading" books using their communication devices, and art projects. The camp provided the children with the opportunity to interact with peers and adults using their communication devices.

Parents and their children had the opportunity to interact together with a variety of computers and software at Parent/Toddler TECH which was held once a week during the month of July. Participating families had hands-on experiences with IBM, Apple IIs, Apple IIe, and Macintosh computers, and were able to try out commercially available and public domain software.

The center also held a Computer Camp for junior high students with learning disabilities during the month of July. The "campers" spent a week learning keyboarding and word processing skills, and wrote a camp newsletter titled *Disk Copy*.



HAVE YOU HEARD?

IBM VoiceType™, a large vocabulary speech recognizer, is the newest offering in IBM's Independence Series of products. IBM VoiceType™, developed by Dragon Systems and IBM, is based on technology invented by Dragon Systems for its DragonDictate products.

IBM VoiceType™ is a powerful tool that provides an affordable "hands free" alternative to using a computer keyboard for persons with disabilities. It allows PC users to create any text by speaking instead of typing! A 7,000 word active vocabulary provides the flexibility to create complex documents by voice, and an integrated 80,000 word back-up dictionary gives the user greater capability for the rapid creation of text.

For more information, contact Dragon Systems, Inc. at (617) 965-5200.

Whisper Wolf© is an auditory scanning, voice output communication aid that is one of the first of its kind! The Whisper Wolf© is actually a fully operational, user programmable Wolf which is touchpanel-activated. It has been enhanced to include an auditory scanning function.

Activating a communication aid by scanning is an alternative for individuals who do not have sufficient motor function to use a touchpanel. In visual scanning, the vocabulary choices are presented visually, typically with lights arrayed in a matrix.

For some individuals, visual scanning is a problem: either too complex cognitively or requiring visual skills which are disabled. Some visual scanning communication aids offer an auditory scan option but the voice output "blares" the vocabulary items which can be

disruptive in most contexts.

The Whisper Wolf© has the addition of a second speaker, a "private speaker" which improves this auditory scanning technique. The selection of choices are "whispered", or spoken to the user through the private speaker which is mounted near the user's ear. When the user hears the desired choice, s/he activates the switch and the selection is re-spoken through the "public speaker"!

For more information, contact ADAMLAB at (313) 467-1415.

Access DOSS© provides extended keyboard, mouse, and sound access for IBM DOS users. It includes a number of interesting features useful to persons with disabilities, and is provided "as is" without charge.

For more information, contact IBM at 1 (800) 426-7282.



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- Are given priority on equipment loan
- Are helping the center to operate

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AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

FRIENDS OF THE CENTER

Mary Fran Adams
Jane Bauer
John Beck
Brenda Bradley
Dee Ellison
Kim Golden
Jo Magee
Susan & Robert Mauney
Kim Molinaro
Andrea Nash
Deby Wallace
United Medical, Inc.

Arkansas Technology Resource Center Staff

Ginny Heiple, M.Ed.
Director

Nancy Dunn, SLP
TAC Coordinator

Debra Fehlman, SLP
Evaluation Services

JoLynn Pickens, PT
Evaluation Services

Pamela Uhlemann
Program Assistant

For more information contact:

**Arkansas Technology
Resource Center
Arkansas Easter Seal Society
2801 Lee Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72205**

**(501) 663-8331
FAX or TDD 663-1546
Hours 8:30 - 4:00**

DISK COPY

The following is a sample of software which is currently on the market.

THINKable™ is a new cognitive rehabilitation system for adolescents and adults that uses the IBM PS/2. The system provides two distinct functions that work in tandem: a *Patient Therapy* practice tool with the latest in multi-media technology (including photo-quality pictures, animation, graphics, and life-like human voice); and *Case Management* with extensive data reporting capabilities.

THINKable™ focuses on four vital cognitive skills: visual attention, visual discrimination, visual memory, and visual-sequential memory. Treatment sessions can be customized by clinicians to ensure an appropriate level of difficulty and enhanced motivation for each patient.

THINKable™ was tested extensively at nine sites in Europe and the United States by professionals that included speech-language pathologists and neuropsychologists. Additional research is currently underway.

THINKable™ is available from Psychological Corporation. For further information call 1 (800) 228-0752 and ask for software assistance.



Interaction Games II is a software program designed to provide a natural setting for experiencing cooperative and competitive play. It allows two players to improve their single switch skills with six different games. Players can gallop horses down to the finish line in "Horse Race" or throw pies at each other in "Pie in the Eye". Other games include "Mountain Climbers", "Slap Jack", "Ice Breaker", and "Match and Win".

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September

10-11, Tuesday-Wednesday

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

"Expanding Horizons and Assessment Practices"

To register, contact:

Sara Zeno, Outreach
(501) 663-8331.

24, Tuesday, 2:00 p.m.

"How to Use the Touch Talker"

Presenter: Sylvia Starr,

Prentke Romich Company.

Sponsored by: Arkansas

Augmentative and Alternative
Communication Consortium.

To register, contact the

Center at (501) 663-8331.

26, Wednesday-Thursday,

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

"Getting Started Workshop"

Sponsored by: Prentke

Romich Company (PRC).

To register, contact: PRC at

1 (800) 262-1984.

October

3-5, Thursday-Saturday

Learning Disabilities

Association of Arkansas

Annual Conference, Pine

Bluff Convention Center.

Contact the LDAA Office at

(501) 225-1766.

23, Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.

"Autoskill Component

Reading Subskills Preview"

Presenter: Robert Pollan.

(Autoskill is a comprehensive

literacy program used by
businesses such as Sears to
help employees gain literacy
skills). To register, contact
the Center at (501) 663-8331.

November

20, Wednesday

10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

*"Making Communication
Boards on the Computer"*

To register, contact the

Center at (501) 663-8331.

Directory of Services

ARKANSAS TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE CENTER PROVIDES:

- Hands-on experiences with computers and software.
- Information about assistive technology on request.
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Arkansas Technology Resource Center

AR Easter Seal Society

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FROM : FTA

FOUNDATION
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**Foundation for Technology Access
FAX TRANSMISSION**

To:
Pat Romani for Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President

Date & Time: July 20, 1994
Fax No.: 202-456-2878
Page 1 **of** 5

From:
Jacquelyn Brand

Subject: Confirmation of Presentation

Message:

This letter is written at the request of Pat Romani to confirm the acceptance of Ms. Rasco to address our meeting.

If there are additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 415-455-4575.

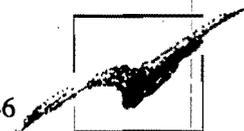
Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Brand

ALLIANCE FOR TECHNOLOGY ACCESS

Offices: 1128 Solano Avenue • Albany, CA 94706-1638 • (510) 528-0747 • Fax (510) 528-0746
1531 Dawn Drive • Louisville, KY 40216-1617 • (502) 449-0645 • Fax (502) 449-0645



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RESOURCE CENTERS

ALABAMA

Birmingham Alliance for Technology
Access Center
Birmingham Independent Living Center
206 13th Street South
Birmingham AL 35253-1317
205/251-2223; 251-0863

Technology Assistance for Special
Consumers
P.O. Box 443
Huntsville AL 35804
205/532-5996

ALASKA

Alaska Services for Enabling
Technology
P.O. Box 6485
Sitka AK 99835
907/747-3019

ARKANSAS

Technology Resource Center
c/o Arkansas Easter Seal Society
2801 Lee Avenue
Little Rock AR 72205
501/663-8331

CALIFORNIA

Computer Access Center
1807 Wilshire Blvd. #202
Santa Monica CA 90403
310/829-6395

DCCG-Technology Resources for
People with Disabilities
2547 8th St., 12-A
Berkeley CA 94710-2572
510/841-3224

Sacramento Center for Assistive
Technology
4370 Mather School Rd.
Mather CA 95655
916-361-0553

Special Awareness Computer Center
Rehabilitation Center
2975 North Sycamore Drive
Simi Valley CA 93065
805/582-1881

Special Technology Center
590 Castro Street
Mountain View CA 94041
415/961-6789

Team of Advocates for Special Kids
100 W. Cerritos
Anaheim CA 92805-6546
714/533-TASK

FLORIDA

Computer CITE
215 E. New Hampshire St.
Orlando FL 32804
407/898-2483

GEORGIA

Tech-Able
1040 Irwin Bridge Rd.
Conyers GA 30207-4323
404/922-6768

HAWAII

Aloha Special Technology Access
Center
1750 Kalakaua Ave. #1008
Honolulu HI 96826-3725
808/955-4464

ILLINOIS

Northern Illinois Center for Adaptive
Technology
3615 Louisiana Road
Rockford IL 61108-6195
815/229-2163

Technical Aids & Assistance for the
Disabled Center
1950 West Roosevelt
Chicago IL 60608
312/421-3373

INDIANA

Assistive Technology Training and
Information Center
3354 Pine Hill Drive
P.O. Box 2441
Vincennes IN 47591
812-886-0575

KANSAS

Technology Resources for Special
People
3023 Canterbury
Salina KS 67401
913/827-0301

KENTUCKY

Blue Grass Technology Center for
People with Disabilities
169 N. Limestone
Lexington KY 40507
606/255-9951

Disabled Citizens Computer Center
Louisville Free Public Library
4th and York Streets
Louisville KY 40203-2257
502/574-1637

SpecialLink
36 W. 5th Street
Covington KY 41011
606/491-2464

LOUISIANA

CATER-Center for Adaptive
Technology
and Educational Resources
4323 Division Street, Ste 110-B
Metairie LA 70002
504/888-5248; 888-0163

ALLIANCE FOR TECHNOLOGY ACCESS
 Offices: 1128 Solano Avenue, Albany, CA 94706-1638
 (510) 528-0747 • Fax (510) 528-0746
 1531 Dawn Drive, Louisville, KY 40216-1617
 (502) 449-0645 • Fax (502) 449-0645



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VENDOR MEMBERS

AbleNet, Inc. 1081 Tenth Ave. S.E. Minneapolis MN 55414 612/379-0956 or 800/322-0956	Articulate Systems, Inc. 600 West Cummings Park, Suite Woburn MA 01801 800/443-7077	Consultants for Communication Technology 508 Bellevue Terrace Pittsburgh PA 15202 412/761-6062	Echo Speech Corporation 6460 Via Real Carpinteria CA 93013 805/684-4593
Academic Software, Inc. 331 W. 2nd Street Lexington KY 40507 606/233-2332 or 800/VIA-ADLS	Berkeley Systems, Inc. 2095 Rose Street Berkeley CA 94709 510/540-5535	Corporate Facilities, Inc. 919 North 5th Street Philadelphia PA 19123 215/440-8840	Edmark Corporation 6727 185th Ave. NE 21st Redmond WA 98052 206/861-8200 or 800/426-0856
Access Unlimited 3535 Briarpark Drive, Suite 102 Houston TX 77042-5235 713/781-7441; 800/848-0311	Blazie Engineering, Inc. 3660 Mill Green Road Street MD 21154 410-893-9333	Creative Learning 313 Railroad Ave., #202 Nevada City CA 95959 916/265-0584 or 800/842-5360	Education TURNKEY Systems, Inc. 256 North Washington Street Falls Church VA 22046 703/536-2310
American Thermoform Corporation 2311 Travers Avenue City of Commerce CA 90040 213/723-9021	Broderbund Software, Inc. 500 Redwood Blvd., Box 6125 Novato CA 94948-6125 415/382-4400	Cross Educational Software 504 E. Kentucky Avenue Ruston LA 71270 318/255-8921	Educational Press P.O. Box 32382 Baltimore MD 21208-8382 410/561-5912
Apple Computer, Inc. Worldwide Disability Solutions 20525 Mariani Avenue MS 36-SE Cupertino, CA 95014 408/9674-8583	Brown & Co, Inc. P.O. Box 861 Georgetown MA 01833 508/352-8822	Discis Knowledge Research, Inc. P.O. Box 45099 Toronto, Ontario Cana M2N 6N2 800/567-4321	Harding & Harris Behavioral Res. Inc. 344 West 920 North #2 Orem UT 84057 801/224-2014
Appoint, Inc. 4473 Willow Road, Suite 110 Pleasanton CA 94566 510/463-3003 or 800/448-1184	Claris Corporation 5201 Patrick Henry Dr., C-56 Santa Clara CA 95052-8168 408/987-7206	Don Johnston Developmental Equipment, Inc. P.O. Box 639 Wauconda IL 60084 708/526-2682 or 800/999-4660	Hartley Courseware, Inc. 133 Bridge St. Dimondale MI 48821 800/247-1380 or 517/646-6458
Aquarius Instructional P.O. Box 128 Indian Rocks FL 34635 800/338-2644	Closing The Gap, Inc. P.O. Box 68 Henderson MN 56044 612/248-3294	Du-It Control Systems Group, Inc. 8765 TR 513 Shreve OH 44676 216/567-2001	Humanities Software P. O. Box 950 Hood River OR 97031 503/386-6737, ext 19
Arkenstone, Inc. 1390 Burregas Ave. Sunnyvale CA 94089 800/444-4443	Compu-Teach 78 Olive Street New Haven CT 06511 206/338-2002; 800/448-3224	Dunamis, Inc. 3620 Highway 317 Suwanee GA 30174-2329 800/828-2443	IBM Corporation P.O. Box 2150 Atlanta, GA 30055 404/238-5020



THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

February 9, 1993

West Tennessee Special Technology Resource
Center for the Disabled (STAR Center)
c/o Margaret Doumitt, Executive Director
P.O. Box 3683
Jackson, Tennessee 38303

Dear Margaret:

I am honored and pleased to be able to write this letter in support of the Special Technology Access Resource (STAR) Center. I visited the Center in December 1991, and was so impressed by the services it provides that I stayed much longer than I had originally planned just so I could learn more about the facility and talk to the people who use its state-of-the-art technologies.

The STAR Center is more than just a resource center for individuals with disabilities; it is a model for 21st Century high-technology facilities. The Center helps people with disabilities to interact and communicate with others, something that may not be possible without the help of technology. It opens doors of activities and windows of learning for all ages, and in some cases, it doesn't just make things easier, it makes them possible.

I have been and continue to be a strong supporter of efforts that help us improve the quality of our lives and to ease the flow of information. As part of that effort, I authored a bill, signed into law in December 1991, that creates a national, high-speed computer network and more than doubles federal funding for high-performance computing research and development. The High Performance Computing Act provides the framework to connect the computers of schools, colleges, research centers and businesses, allowing each to benefit from the high speed and power of the most advanced computers.



THE FACE OF PHILANTHROPY

Using Computers to Help Disabled Kids

SHOSHANA BRAND was born with cerebral palsy and limited vision. But the 11th grader hasn't been stopped by her disabilities. She gets good grades, sings in her school choir, helped start an ecology club, and is planning to go to a community college.

Much of that would not have been possible without computers and other high-tech tools that are making it easier for Shoshana to lead the life of a typical teen-ager. And she probably wouldn't have had access to that equipment had her mother, Jackie, not decided to become an activist.

A decade ago, Jackie Brand says, she realized that "a technology revolution was taking place and there was no place for people with disabilities to sign up."

She says she knew computers could help people like Shoshana, but that school officials and others didn't seem to know how to find appropriate hardware and software. So

in 1983 she set up a center that would involve parents of other kids with disabilities, educators, as well as computer salespeople, and others who were interested in finding new ways to use technology—and in getting the word out about what was available.

Now 46 such centers exist in 34 states and provide direct services to 95,000 people. The centers collected \$3.8 million last year in donations from private sources and government. An umbrella group that works with the centers, the Alliance for Technology Access in Albany, Cal., raised \$835,000.

Jackie Brand was recently honored for her work by the Prince Charitable Trusts in Chicago, which gave her its annual \$50,000 prize for people who have improved the quality of life for the disabled.

Here, Ms. Brand helps a youngster learn to use a computer.

Photograph by Oscar H. Izquierdo

The Alliance for Technology Access



ALLIANCE
— for —
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

The Mission

The Alliance for Technology Access seeks to redefine human potential by making technology a regular part of the lives of people with disabilities. It strives to accomplish this goal by providing easy access to conventional and assistive technologies, related services, and information resources which enable people to achieve success, independence, productivity, and social interdependence according to their individual needs and interests.

In its mission to increase the awareness, understanding, and implementation of assistive technologies, the Alliance is grounded in the notion that effective solutions result from collaborative efforts. Based on a spirit of collaboration and partnership, the Alliance is driven by adults and children with disabilities, their families and friends, teachers and therapists, employers, service providers, technology vendors, professional organizations, and community agencies—all working together and sharing the belief that meaningful and lasting change occurs when the search for solutions begins with individuals defining their own dreams and expectations.

The Values

- People with disabilities have the right to maximum independence and participation in all environments, without barriers.
- Technology can be harnessed to diminish or eliminate environmental barriers for people with disabilities.
- People with disabilities have the right to control and direct their own choices, and the right to access the information they need in order to make informed decisions according to their goals and interests.
- People with disabilities have the right to employ assistive technologies, strategies for implementation, and necessary training support to maximize their independence and productivity.

- Whenever possible, it provides information and referral for those who require services not available at the center.
 - The center defines its scope of services clearly.
 - Staff members maintain current, relevant knowledge of what is available beyond the scope of the center, and guide consumers to needed resources by inviting experts to the center, by researching information, and by making appropriate referrals.

2 Every Alliance Center has personnel who are knowledgeable, supportive, and effective.

- Acknowledging that the field of assistive technology is changing rapidly, center staff members function as brokers of expertise rather than as experts, constantly learning and always focused on helping consumers find needed resources and information.
- The staff (paid and unpaid) of the center reflect collaboration among family members, consumers, and professionals.
- All staff members strive to provide information and options to consumers and their families in order to help them make informed decisions.
- The staff are competent service providers.
- Staff members have a high level of expertise and knowledge of a wide range of products and applications.
- Staff members view themselves as learners as well as teachers, in relation to the whole Alliance.
- Every Alliance Center makes a commitment to keep current through an ongoing program of staff development and training.
- The center is continually developing its expertise in the areas of management, business, and finance in order to assure a strong, stable, expanding organization.
- The center participates in all ATA training events.

3 Every Alliance Center works in cooperation with the vendor community to increase product excellence and availability.

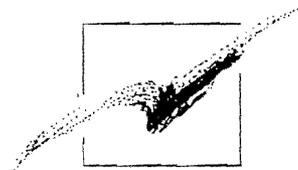
- It follows Alliance guidelines for center/vendor interaction.
- It continually learns about and tests new products, providing consumer feedback, and suggesting design parameters for new development.

- Its staff keeps records of the activities of the center and annually completes and submits to the national office an Alliance Impact Evaluation.
- Its staff and board members participate regularly in Alliance activities, to ensure a sense of connection and interdependence among centers.
- Its staff and board members attend Alliance-wide events, and act as representatives from the Alliance back to the center, in order to both disseminate information and promote active collaboration.
- Staff members use telecommunications to participate regularly with other centers and vendors in a process of collaborative problem solving and information sharing.

The Foundation for Technology Access (FTA), a 501(c)(3) organization, is founded on the principle that effective solutions result from collaborative efforts. The FTA is strong today because our partnerships are strong. We started by bringing together parents of youngsters with disabilities, consumers, teachers, and technology wizards. We were soon joined by the people in Apple Computer's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation, who shared our dream and helped make it come true. The FTA now counts among its partners IBM Corporation, along with

many of the technology developers and vendors working toward the goal of full product access for people with disabilities.

The FTA would like to publicly acknowledge and thank our generous supporters, who contribute annually toward the national effort, starting with all of the resource centers of the Alliance for Technology Access (ATA). We would also like to thank all of the vendor members of the ATA for their invaluable support over the years, including product donations, technical assistance, and many hours of training.



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Alafi Capital

Apple Computer, Inc.
Worldwide Disability
Solutions Group

Apple Computer, Inc.
Community Affairs

Berkeley Systems, Inc.

Big Red Computer Club

S. H. Cowell Foundation

Dole Funding Partnership
for People with Disabilities

Don Johnston Developmental
Equipment, Inc.

Echo Speech Corporation

Farallon Computing

Goldstein and Blair

IBM Corporation

IBM: California
Educational Partnership

ICONZ, Inc.

IntelliTools

JM Foundation

Joy Modesitt Design

Marks Foundation

Mattel Foundation

Milken Family Foundation

Mitsubishi Electric
America Foundation

National Cristina Foundation

National Institute
on Disability and
Rehabilitation Research

NEC Foundation of America

David and Lucille
Packard Foundation

Pacific Bell

Pacific Telesis Foundation

PEAL Software

Public Welfare Foundation

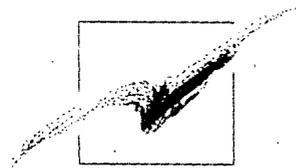
Publisher's Group West

The Software Toolworks

U.S. Dept. of Education

FTA

1128 SOLANO AVENUE ■ ALBANY, CA 94706-1638 ■ (510) 528-0747 ■ FAX (510) 528-0746



FOUNDATION
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TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

Through a wide variety of efforts, the FTA works to change the way people think about their own potential and the way they view technology—not as a luxury or a costly impossibility, but as an essential tool that can improve the performance and lives of all people. Today, that goal is embodied within—and validated by—the Americans with Disabilities Act. In essence, our efforts focus on sharing and supporting the compelling vision and desired state of affairs articulated in the ADA.

Fostering Public Awareness

Staff of the FTA and ATA centers make presentations at conferences all over the world, give testimony at hearings, and advise both private and governmental agencies on every aspect of technology as it relates to the needs of individuals with disabilities.

If you would like a speaker or adviser on a particular topic related to technology and disability, please contact the FTA at (510) 528-0747.

Providing Training and Technical Assistance

Training is perhaps the most important FTA initiative, because it is the key to staying current, vital, and viable in the field of technology. The constant introduction of technological innovations makes ongoing training critical to our success in translating new technology into practical tools for the home, classroom, and workplace.

With the goal of training people who will in turn train and support others in their communities, we offer national conference opportunities, individual and regional training structured to meet local needs, and daily training support via telecommunications. The scope of our training is broad, and includes technology tools and applications, organizational management, disability awareness, and grass-roots leadership development, particularly for individuals with disabilities and their family members.

Promoting Full Participation/Creating an Inclusive Community

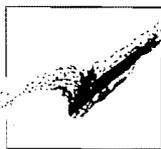
The FTA is dedicated to the full inclusion of people with disabilities into the mainstream of American life. We believe that, beginning in school, children with disabilities can and should be learning alongside their peers without

disabilities. We place a high priority on using technology to support an inclusive community of learners—all with unique needs and gifts.

Believing that inclusion is a philosophy rather than simply an educational strategy, we initiated an effort called CompuCID (Computer Classroom Integration Demonstration) in six communities across the nation: Charlotte, Santa Monica, Berkeley, Seattle, Knoxville, and Denver. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, CompuCID demonstrated how computers and innovative learning strategies can be used to support the inclusion of all students in general education classrooms. Incorporating students with all types of abilities, a range of classroom settings, and a variety of content areas, we showed the enormous benefits gained by all children when they have the opportunity to learn together and develop the social, academic, and technical skills necessary to function effectively in our society.

Going one step further, the FTA is piloting a program titled Models for Integration: Science and Technology (MIST). With the support of the NEC Foundation of America, the FTA is developing innovative strategies to promote the full participation of students in mainstream secondary science education programs in Utica, Charlotte, and Santa Monica. Students with and without disabilities are learning about the enabling power of assistive technology, and are joining together to use and adapt technology so that it is accessible to all.

On another front, FTA is supporting the integration of youngsters with disabilities into the Mattel Foundation's Computer Learning Labs. By training teachers in the use of assistive technology in public schools nationwide,



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TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS

Through a wide variety of efforts, the FTA works to change the way people think about their own potential and the way they view technology—not as a luxury or a costly impossibility, but as an essential tool that can improve the performance and lives of all people. Today, that goal is embodied within—and validated by—the Americans with Disabilities Act. In essence, our efforts focus on sharing and supporting the compelling vision and desired state of affairs articulated in the ADA.

Fostering Public Awareness

Staff of the FTA and ATA centers make presentations at conferences all over the world, give testimony at hearings, and advise both private and governmental agencies on every aspect of technology as it relates to the needs of individuals with disabilities.

If you would like a speaker or adviser on a particular topic related to technology and disability, please contact the FTA at (510) 528-0747.

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On another front, FTA is supporting the integration of youngsters with disabilities into the Mattel Foundation's Computer Learning Labs. By training teachers in the use of assistive technology in public schools nationwide,

we are increasing the learning opportunities for a whole new generation of students.

Reaching the Underserved

Technology no longer belongs to a select few, and it no longer belongs behind closed doors. Under grants from the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research, the Public Welfare Foundation, the Dole Funding Partnership for People with Disabilities, the IM Foundation, and the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation, the FTA is taking technology into the streets of Baltimore, the barrios of San Jose, the shopping malls of Huntsville, and the housing projects of Charlotte. And with the support and assistance of the FTA, ATA centers across the nation are bringing technology to communities that have too long been excluded from the American dream.

Through the ACTION (Accessing Computer Technology in Our Neighborhoods) Project, we are working with community centers (urban, suburban, and rural) to put technology where people have to take notice of it. By taking computers into places such as libraries and community centers, where people work and play, we are providing hundreds of individuals with their first opportunity to touch technology and glimpse a new future.

Through Operation Outreach, a talented technology team recycles computers from the high-tech junkyards of the Silicon Valley, equips them with the necessary adaptations, and makes them available on long-term loan to people who can give them new life—while enhancing their own lives.

For more information on the ACTION Project, contact one of the participating ATA centers in Huntsville, Denver, Nashville, Charlotte, and Baltimore. For more information about Operation Outreach, contact the participating ATA center in Mountain View.

Piloting Projects

The FTA is continually searching for ways to magnify the impact of local efforts by developing regional and national model projects. One example is the California Statewide Equipment Library, funded by the S. H. Cowell Foundation, the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, IBM, California Educational Partnership, and Pacific Telesis Foundation. This project affords individuals across the state improved access to cutting-edge technology and strategies for use. Contact any of the ATA centers in California for more information about this new program.

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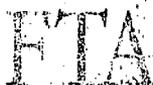
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- Family support and advocacy
- Computer camps/after-school programs
- Public events and presentations
- Minority and low-income outreach
- Adapted-toy programs
- Workshops and user groups
- Transition training for young adults
- Early intervention services
- Technical support services
- Professional development

The Foundation for Technology Access (FTA) provides support, training, technical assistance, and encouragement to assist ATA centers in expanding their services and broadening their impact. Upon admission to the ATA, each center receives a complement of computer equipment and assistive devices from the FTA. In addition, the FTA connects the network of centers through a telecommunications system (AppleLink[®] donated by Apple Computer) that allows instant dissemination of new ideas and information and easy collaboration and brainstorming about solutions to specific computer access problems.

The ATA has rapidly grown from a small group of parents, consumers, and professionals into one of the nation's most effective efforts devoted to enabling people with disabilities to gain access to the full benefits of technology. And public demand for services continues to grow at a rapid rate. The number of individuals crossing center thresholds, for example, went from 20,000 in 1987 to more than 80,000 in 1992.

If you are interested in obtaining more information on the ATA or would like assistance in developing an ATA center in your community, please contact the Foundation for Technology Access.

The Values of the Alliance for Technology Access

We believe that:

- People with disabilities have the right to maximum independence and participation in all environments, without barriers.
- Technology can be harnessed to diminish or eliminate environmental barriers for people with disabilities.
- People with disabilities have the right to control and direct their own choices, and the right to access the information they need in order to make informed decisions according to their goals and interests.
- People with disabilities have the right to employ assistive technologies, strategies for implementation, and necessary training support to maximize their independence and productivity.

The Alliance for Technology Access is nationally recognized as a leader in its field, at the forefront of a movement signaling major change. Directed by Jacquelyn Brand, the 1992 recipient of the Henry B. Betts Award,* the ATA is raising expectations, so that one day all those with a disability will have access to the tools they need to help them realize their dreams.

* Established in 1989, the Henry B. Betts Award is presented annually to a living individual whose work and influence have significantly—and positively—affected the quality of life for people with physical disabilities.

ALLIANCE
for
TECHNOLOGY
ACCESS



The Alliance for Technology Access (ATA) is a growing movement of people across the country who are working to redefine human potential through the powerful and imaginative application of computer technology. It consists of a network of assistive technology resource centers whose members share a common vision—and an uncommon commitment to improving the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities.

The ATA was born out of a desire to demonstrate how technology can be used by everyone to transform limitations into opportunities. The group works toward this goal by providing access to the assistive technologies and related services that enable people to achieve productivity, independence, and success according to their individual needs and interests. Based on a spirit of collaboration and partnership, the ATA is driven by adults and children with disabilities, their families and friends, teachers and therapists, employers, service providers, technology vendors, professional organizations, and community agencies. All share the belief that meaningful and lasting change occurs when the search for technological solutions begins with individuals defining their own dreams and expectations.

Each center is an independently incorporated organization, tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal

Revenue Code, with its own name, governing board, and corporate structure. All are dedicated to serving people of all ages with disabilities of all kinds and have comprehensive, multifaceted programs that reflect specific community needs, as well as local talents and resources.

Although each center is unique in many ways, all ATA centers provide services that help parents, teachers, employers, and children and adults with disabilities to explore computer systems, adaptive devices, and software. These services may include:

- Guided exploration and technical consultations
- Hands-on computer demonstrations
- Information and resource services
- Technical assistance to employers
- Equipment, software, and video loans

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The Charlotte Observer

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This time and place

The help key

By TOM BRADBURY
Associate Editor

Two pictures that hint at what computers can mean to people facing mental and physical disabilities:

One, in the new issue of Discover magazine, shows British physicist Stephen Hawking, familiar for his brilliance, his wheelchair and his debilitating battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, best-known as Lou Gehrig's disease. His mind ranges the cosmos, but it is increasingly dependent on a computer and voice synthesizer for the communications output his body can't provide. For millions worldwide, his story illustrates the power of computers to liberate people from nature's barriers.

The other picture, printed below, is closer to home. It shows Judy Timms, executive director of the Carolina Computer Access Center, working with Metro School student Mary Gray Daniel during the center's open house Thursday. The center, now four years old and tucked into a room at Metro, is a hands-on resource for teachers, parents and others who need to know what computers can do to liberate their students, their children, their clients from the limitations imposed by disabilities.

Powerful, but confusing, technology

Computers are powerful. They can read for the blind, and enlarge type so the visually impaired can read for themselves. They can speak for the voiceless, and provide ever-patient reinforcement for those struggling to master speech. And they can magnify capabilities, following instructions from a foot switch or a head pointer or a puff straw.

But computers are also overwhelming and expensive. That's where the center comes in. Speech-language pathologist Cindy Monroe, who has drawn on the center in her present job with United Cerebral Palsy and in her previous job with the Gaston-Lincoln Mental Center, explains:

"The neat thing about the center is that they can keep up with technology. Technology changes yearly. It is almost impossible to keep up with it. They've got numerous types of computers. . . . It is good for parents to go down there. They can take their child and try different computers and see what is best. . . . The center has all different types of adaptive equipment. A child with physical problems, who could not type, could use a switch interface to access the computer."

The center is like a showroom — with a variety of computers to try, along with the special equipment and devices to make their power available to people with disabilities. There's software to test and to borrow, and even public-domain programs that can be copied for a token fee. As one of 46 centers in the



ORTEGA GAINES/Staff

Judy Timms, executive director of the Carolina Computer Access Center, helps Metro School student Mary Gray Daniel.

Alliance for Technology Access, it has national support — and a computer network for advice and consultation. It's a try-before-you-buy service. Except that with a director and space provided by the school system — and the larger part of its support from the community and grants — it's not in the sales business itself.

Missionary outreach

Timms, her small staff and the network of volunteers are missionaries of a sort. She talks less about what they have than how they serve. One program, begun with a federal grant, provides computers to link special education and general education in five elementary schools: Sharon, Cotswold, Cornelius, Devonshire and Long Creek. When summer came, the computers were rented to parents of children with special needs. The center won national recognition for another computer project, supported by the NEC Foundation and the Foundation for Technology Access, that brought special needs students into the mainstream in an East Mecklenburg High biology class.

The center, which is just a phone call away for parents and teachers, took over 2,000 calls last year. It saw almost 300 students a month, and provided 126 individual consultations. It participated in an average of seven workshops or presentations a month, reaching at least 2,250 people.

The statistics measure program activity, but the dedication has deeper roots. Timms encountered the potential of computers while working with students with disabilities a decade ago. Her husband built a frame to bring a hookup of television, tape recorder and TRS-80 computer within reach of a student in a wheelchair. "I think how far technology has come," she says. "It makes me sick to think of the kids I had 10 years ago who could be using computers." That's one reason the center's door is also open to adults with disabilities, people who never had the opportunity as children.

Carolyn Hocutt came to the center seeking computer help for her own visually impaired son. Before the access center opened, she said, "it was really hard to find what we needed. This is the answer to a prayer." Now she's the center's resource director and a member of its board.

Volunteer John Connell, an IBM early retiree who was working with voice-recognition software during the open house, first came with his wife, a teacher at Charlotte Christian School. She was looking for programs for learning-disabled students. He stayed to help install equipment and software.

Putting technology to work

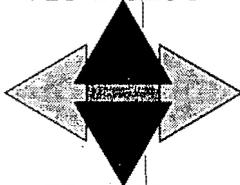
What this means was explained simply by Vicki Davidson, educational programs coordinator at the Gaston Comprehensive Day Center in Dallas. "Most of our children are nonverbal and have physical handicaps. The computer allows them to interact with the environment in ways that they would not normally be able to. . . . It allows them to speak, because we can program it to speak for them. It allows them to turn things on and off. It allows them some leisure skills, because we can set up the games on the computer," she says.

"We didn't go to school to be computer programmers," she adds, "but it sure would have been helpful." The center helps train new staff, and offers advice on equipment. And, with the help of several grants, the computer center has launched "Tools for Tomorrow," a regional cooperative of agencies working with preschool children who have disabilities. "We come together as professionals," Davidson says, "so we can make technology happen in all our programs."

Helping children and adults function despite their disabilities is not a mass-production enterprise. The needs are complex and individual; the technology can be as bewildering as it is powerful. But the payoff can be extraordinary.

The Carolina Computer Access Center is one small part of a much larger effort. But it is like a computer's help key for parents and professionals seeking technology to allow their children, their students, their clients to surmount the mental and physical barriers imposed by disabilities.

**ARKANSAS
TECHNOLOGY**



**RESOURCE
CENTER**

November 1, 1993

Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
2nd Floor, West Wing
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

NOV

Dear Carol,

I am contacting you in my capacity as Director of the Arkansas Technology Resource Center at the Arkansas Easter Seal Society. Our Center is a member of the Alliance for Technology Access (ATA) which is a network of 46 assistive technology centers, vendors, and researchers located in the United States, Virgin Islands, and Australia. All centers provide hands on experiences with assistive technology, information, and training on assistive technology to persons with disabilities, their families, other professionals who work with them, and to all others who are interested. All ATA centers are based on a collaborative effort of persons with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, and professionals.

In addition to being selected for membership in the ATA, the Arkansas Technology Resource Center at Easter Seals was selected by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) as one of 11 outstanding national sites in augmentative communication and by IBM, Inc., as a regional site for its Offering for Persons with Disabilities. This recognition is based on Arkansas Easter Seals' long time commitment to and use of assistive technology with children and adults with disabilities. The Arkansas Technology Resource Center, along with the other 45 ATA sites world-wide, serve thousands of people annually and have seen how assistive technology can assist these people in becoming more independent at home, school, and work.

The Alliance for Technology Access will be having its Institute '94 in Washington D.C., July 18 through 21, 1994. The ATA is requesting that both you and Hillary Clinton speak at the Institute, if this can be worked into your schedules. Since many of the Alliance Centers were begun and are operated by parents, the ATA is most eager to have you speak. As Hamp's mother, you share many of their concerns, and they are proud that your role as a parent of a child with disabilities has made you more aware of the battles that these families often go through. As Director of the Technology Resource Center here at Arkansas Easter Seals, I also recall that you first got me involved volunteering at Easter Seals when Hamp was just a toddler, so I am also very proud of you and hope that you will be able to speak at the Institute.

Arkansas Easter Seal Society
2801 Lee Avenue • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
(501) 663-8331 TDD/FAX 660-1057

Carol Rasco Letter
Ginny Heiple/AR Easter Seals
Page 2

Janet Hargett, a member of the Arkansas Technology Resource Center's Board of Directors, fellow parent, and volunteer at President Clinton's Little Rock Office, is assisting me in getting these letters and information to you and the First Lady. A personal letter to you from Jacquelyn Brand, Executive Director of the Alliance for Technology Access, accompanies my letter. Jackie Brand is the mother of a teenager with cerebral palsy, who in conjunction with Apple Computer, started the Alliance for Technology Access. She is also a very dynamic women who has received national recognition for her efforts in starting the ATA. She is interested in meeting with you, and I feel that you will have a lot of common ground.

I do get to see Hamp here at Easter Seals some times. Tim and I both need to visit him soon. I am also teaching a class in Elementary Education at UALR on Saturdays and Tim works constantly trying to keep his architecture business going, so we seldom have time to do anything but work. Drew is a freshman at Washington & Lee in Virginia so we need to have as many jobs as possible. One of Drew's prize possessions in his dormitory room is his autographed picture of President Clinton that Skipper Rutherford was able to get for him. I hope that Mary Margaret is enjoying her school in Washington.

I did want you to know that as a basic middle class citizen, I am amazed that when I do go out of state, how impressed I am at how many people, when they find out that I'm from Arkansas, talk about how much they respect President Clinton for the difficult changes that he is trying to make in this country. They also respect him because he's so friendly and cares about what the common citizen thinks. I am sure that many Arkansans have experienced this, especially if they have an accent like mine which immediately makes the other person ask, "Where are you from anyway?" We are just all so lucky to have President Clinton and especially lucky to be from Arkansas at this time in history.

I hope that you will be able to speak at our Institute '94, and that you will be able to meet with Jackie Brand. She will call to set up an appointment with you. I also hope that Janet and I are able to get this letter into your hands, especially with the thousands of letters that must come to the White House each day. Yes, I will owe the next Clinton campaign a big donation and a lot of volunteer work, if you agree to do this for us! Keep up the good work. We are proud of you and the rest of the Arkansas staff members.

Sincerely,



Ginny Heiple

P.S. A packet of information on the Alliance for Technology Access and the Arkansas Technology Resource Center at Arkansas Easter Seals is being mailed to you.