

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20507



March 31, 1989

Office of the  
Commissioner

The Honorable George Bush  
The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Mr. President:

I am sending you a copy of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1989, which the sponsors hope to introduce in Congress by late April of this year. This bill is the critical legislation we need to mainstream millions of disabled people into productive employment and full, meaningful lives. I have reviewed the draft bill carefully, and except for one or two minor problems that Boyden Gray and I are working on, it is an excellent piece of legislation that will reflect well on you, your Administration, and the Republican Party. In fact, I believe this bill presents a rare political opportunity: it provides enormous benefits to a previously excluded people and poses no political risk. Of course, as with all legislation, some disputes may arise as to the language of specific provisions, but these can be ironed out in the legislative process.

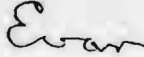
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Ted Koppel of ABC's Nightline would like to do a half hour show on the American with Disabilities Act on the eve of its introduction. I strongly recommend that you appear with Representative Tony Coelho and Senator Tom Harkin to illustrate that the bill is a bi-partisan effort. Your appearance is also the quickest way to demonstrate to the 6 1/2 million disabled people who voted for you that you are committed to mainstreaming disabled people into society.

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Janine and I had a wonderful evening with you and Barbara on March 17th. It will always be a highlight of our lives. Again, thanks from Janine and me to you and Barbara.

Sincerely yours,



Evan J. Kemp, Jr.  
Commissioner

PS: I am sending a copy of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1989 and my recommendation to both Governor Sununu and your Counsel, C. Boyden Gray.