



February 14, 2022

Chairman Patrick Leahy
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Vice-Chairman Richard Shelby
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Kay Granger
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Shelby and Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

As we get closer to the deadline for the current continuing resolution (CR), the undersigned members of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) strongly urge you to pass the twelve appropriations bills for the Fiscal Year 2022 and avoid any further delays. A year-long CR at FY 2021 levels would have significant impacts on the lives of people with disabilities and their families and would be troubling for many people with disabilities and the programs and projects that support them.

CCD is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for Federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society free from racism, ableism, sexism, and xenophobia, as well as LGBTQ+ based discrimination and religious intolerance.

The annual appropriations bills provide urgently needed increases for funding that impact people with disabilities and their families. People with disabilities and their families depend on these programs and projects for critical supports and services including necessary health care, employment supports, transportation, and education and related services. Given the current pandemic, efforts by programs funded by the federal government are critical to keeping people safe, healthy, employed, or in school. Additionally, programs that support heating assistance, food delivery, and other assistance to get through this pandemic are needed.

Congress has an important job to do – pass appropriations bills that support people. We urge Congress to get the job done and help millions of people, including the 64 million Americans who live with disabilities, have access to programs that support them to live their best life. All people deserve to have congressionally funded programs that will help them to live full and meaningful lives in the community.

Please reach out to the CCD Fiscal Policy Task Force co-chairs with any questions:

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Kim Musheno, Autism Society of America, kmusheno@autism-Society.org

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Undersigned Members of CCD

Advocacy Institute

ALS Association

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Association on Health and Disability

American Council of the Blind

American Foundation for the Blind

American Network of Community Options and Resources

American Printing House

American Psychological Association

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Assistive Technology Industry Association

Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs

American Therapeutic Recreation Association

Association of University Centers on Disabilities

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Autism Society of America

Autism Speaks

Brain Injury Association of America

Caring Across Generations

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

CommunicationFIRST

Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf

Council for Learning Disabilities.

Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates

CSAVR

Disability Rights and Education Fund

Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (DEC)

Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Epilepsy Foundation

Higher Education Consortium for Special Education (HECSE)

IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA)

Justice in Aging

Learning Disabilities Association

Muscular Dystrophy Association

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Center for Learning Disabilities
National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE)
National Council on Independent Living
National Disability Rights Network
National Down Syndrome Congress
National Respite Coalition
National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives (NOSSCR)
National Parent Teacher Association
Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies
RespectAbility
TASH
Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children (TED)
The Arc of the United States
The Kelsey
United Cerebral Palsy