

As the lead sponsor of the ADA 10 years ago, I was especially pleased to be able to work on another important piece of disability legislation while celebrating the passage of civil rights for people with disabilities.

Today we are here to pass a joint resolution that incorporates technical changes we made here in the House and re-pass the Senate's version.

This bill originated in the Senate, and out of respect for the hard work of Senators JEFFORDS, KENNEDY and HARKIN, we would like to send the original Senate bill to the President to sign.

The DD Act has not been substantially reauthorized since 1994, and is in need of some updating. Just as our technology and science evolves every day, so do the strategies for reaching, engaging, and assisting individuals with developmental disabilities.

Individuals with developmental disabilities often have multiple, evolving, life long needs that require interaction with agencies and organizations that offer specialized assistance as well as interaction with generic services in their communities.

The DD Act seeks to provide a voice for those with developmental disabilities, those with mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy and epilepsy, as they navigate through the complicated system of public services, policies and organizations that we currently have in place.

The DD Act seeks to provide families with the knowledge and tools they need to help individuals with developmental disabilities become integrated and included in their communities, to foster true independence of those with developmental disabilities and protect themselves from abuse and neglect.

Mr. Chairman, as we stand here today, ready to pass the final version of the Developmental Disabilities Act, I think it is appropriate to acknowledge and remind all of my colleagues of the battle that people with disabilities have fought in order to obtain basic civil rights.

It is appropriate that the House passed the first version of this bill on the 10th anniversary of the ADA, and today as we pass this final version of the Developmental Disabilities Act, the Supreme Court is hearing a case that may significantly alter the civil rights protections granted in the ADA.

Today the court is hearing oral arguments to review whether Congress had the authority to abrogate State immunity and enforce the ADA's anti-discrimination protections against State governments.

A negative ruling from the Supreme Court could call into question altogether the constitutionality of title II of the ADA, as well as other disability rights statutes.

As someone who was there during the debates on the ADA, these questions aren't hard to answer. There was a great deal of discrimination going on at the State level—people with disabilities were segregated into institutions; children were discriminated against in public school; public transportation didn't accommodate wheelchairs; and there was a history of section 504 liti-

gation that proved discrimination was happening at the State level. The Bush administration's own national council on disability documented the discrimination in its report to Congress.

We can't let the court turn back the clock on disability rights in the same year that we are celebrating the anniversary of these important protections.

The ADA allowed us to tear down the wall of exclusion and pour a strong foundation for the house of equality. But that house—in which Americans are judged by their ability and not their disability—is still being built.

The promise remains unfulfilled, but still is within reach.

I urge my colleagues to support the reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Act.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 133

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Secretary of the Senate, in the enrollment of the bill (S. 1809) to improve service systems for individuals with developmental disabilities, and for other purposes, shall make the following corrections:*

(1) Strike "1999" each place it appears (other than in section 101(a)(2)) and insert "2000".

(2) In section 101(a)(2), strike "are" and insert "were".

(3) In section 104(a)—

(A) in paragraphs (1), (3)(C), and (4), strike "2000" each place it appears and insert "2001"; and

(B) in paragraph (4), strike "fiscal year 2001" and insert "fiscal year 2002".

(4) In section 124(c)(4)(B)(i), strike "2001" and insert "2002".

(5) In section 125(c)—

(A) in paragraph (5)(H), strike "assess" and insert "access"; and

(B) in paragraph (7), strike "2001" and insert "2002".

(6) In section 129(a)—

(A) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(B) strike "fiscal years 2001 through 2006" and insert "fiscal years 2002 through 2007".

(7) In section 144(e), strike "2001" and insert "2002".

(8) In section 145—

(A) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(B) strike "fiscal years 2001 through 2006" and insert "fiscal years 2002 through 2007".

(9) In section 156—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)—

(i) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(ii) strike "fiscal years 2001 through 2006" and insert "fiscal years 2002 through 2007"; and

(B) in subsection (b), strike "2000" each place it appears and insert "2001".

(10) In section 163—

(A) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(B) strike "fiscal years 2001 through 2006" and insert "fiscal years 2002 through 2007".

(11) In section 212, strike "2000 through 2006" and insert "2001 through 2007".

(12) In section 305—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(ii) strike "fiscal years 2001 through 2006" and insert "fiscal years 2002 through 2007"; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) strike "fiscal year 2000" and insert "fiscal year 2001"; and

(ii) strike "fiscal years 2001 and 2002" and insert "fiscal years 2002 and 2003".

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on Senate Concurrent Resolution 133, and to include extraneous material thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### GENERAL LEAVE.

Mr. LAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Resolution 616.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON H.R. 2415, AMERICAN EMBASSY SECURITY ACT OF 1999

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on International Relations and pursuant to clause 1 of rule XXII, I offer a motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. CHABOT moves that the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the Bill H.R. 2415 and agree to the conference requested by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the purpose is to go to conference on H.R. 2415.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the motion.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. CONYERS. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker. Is it not traditional that at least the other side of the aisle would get half the time, 30 minutes? Is that not traditional here?