

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities Newsletter



February 1995

CTD Delegate Resolutions, Legislative Positions and Actions

At the Annual Delegates Assembly on November 21 1994, The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities adopted the 1995 resolutions. The following lists the CTD legislative positions in regards to the resolutions and the actions taken toward the goals of the resolutions.

Employment

EMPLOYING TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that CTD advocate for all Texas state agencies to adopt and implement an affirmative action program for persons with disabilities similar to that mandated under Article IX. of the Appropriations Act for other disadvantaged minorities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a goal for hiring and promoting persons with disabilities be set by the state agencies which reflects the percentage of available people with disabilities in the work force.

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

The State of Texas must include persons with disabilities under Article IX, Section 96 of the State Appropriations Act, Minority Hiring Practices that requires Texas state agencies and institution of higher education to employ disadvantaged minorities, in relation to their availability in the statewide civilian labor force as it does for other recognized minority groups.

BACKGROUND: The Texas Human Rights Act, other state laws and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act law clearly recognize people with disabilities as a minority group and provide civil rights protection which forbid discrimination against us.

According to the U. S. Census Report, Americans with Disabilities 1991-1992, published in January, 1994, there are approximately 3.5 million disabled Texans of which 2,137,738 are working age. Seventy percent or 1,621,900 of the working age population of people with disabilities are unemployed Texans who could potentially contribute to the tax base.

Texas state agencies have historically employed people with disabilities far below the available qualified disabled workforce. This is partially evidenced by the fact that 4,039 employment discrimination complaints under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act have been filed with the Texas Human Rights Commission and the U.S. Equal Employment Commission between July 1992 and August of 1994.

The Texas Department of Human Services has included people with disabilities in their agency hiring goals since 1985 as a voluntary effort that recognizes people with disabilities, as well as other minorities, are not represented in their workforce at appropriate levels.

The civilian labor force by job category of Texans with Disabilities is: Officials/Administration (9.8%), Professional (6.8%), Technical (7.0%), Protective (8%), Para-Professionals (7.5%) Administrative (9%), Skilled (8%), Service/Maintenance (9.6%). These percentages were developed by the Texas Department of Human Services using two recognized data sources for Texas: The Human Resource Information Network and the Dictionary of Occupational Titles. These sources allow projection into the year 2000 and are defensible in court.

Texans with disabilities must be given the opportunity to work, pay taxes, and fully participate in society. Appropriate employment provides financial security, high self-esteem, health insurance and the opportunity to become mainstream members of society. Unemployment under-utilizes valuable human resources and robs the state of valuable human and economic resources.

ACTION: The Coalition has met with staff for Lt. Governor Bob Bullock, Senate Pro Tempore Gonzalo Barrientos, Speaker of the House Pete Laney who have all indicated support. CTD has asked Senators Zaffarini and Truan to submit motions to include People with Disabilities in minority hiring. CTD has testified on eight different occasions before the Senate Finance and House Appropriations committees.

CONTINUED STATE FUNDING OF TEXAS CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities will advocate with the Directors Association of Texas Centers for Independent Living, the Centers for Independent Living, the state Independent Living Council, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, and people with disabilities to guarantee continued state funding of centers for independent living and independent living services throughout the state of Texas.

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

It is the position of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities that it is imperative that the state of Texas make the \$3.1 million necessary funding available over the biennium to assure that the same level of services will be provided to Texans with disabilities through Texas Centers for Independent Living.

BACKGROUND: Center for Independent Living (CIL) is defined in the Rehabilitation Act (1992) as a consumer controlled, community-based, cross-disability, nonresidential, private nonprofit agency that is designed and operated within a local community by individuals with disabilities, and provides an array of independent living services.

Texas Centers provide tailor-made services to their communities and to any individual who has a disability, regardless of the nature of their disability or the age of onset. This means CIL's are cross-disability (meaning not limited to a particular disability) and have an open door policy. The centers are unique in that they are consumer-controlled.

At least 51% of the boards and the employees must be people with disabilities.

Core independent living services provided through CIL's are as follows:

Individual Advocacy is empowering the individual to act on their own to achieve, maintain or improve their independence in areas such as: personal assistance services, social security benefits, affordable and accessible housing, employment or school needs. CIL's assist consumers with advocating for themselves. This includes: accessing services from appropriate agencies, appeal of an agency decision, learning rights under the law, building assertiveness skills to develop better communication, and other things that assist individuals to meet their independent living goals that they set for themselves.

Systems advocacy includes procedures used by CIL's to present the positions of their consumers to other members of the community to remove barriers to independent living, develop community options, and adopt policies and procedures that facilitate independent living for all people with disabilities.

Information and Referral is providing information to the community and individuals about disability-related issues and independent living. Referral includes assessing the needs of the caller, evaluating appropriate resources, locating alternate resources and actively linking the inquirer to needed services.

Independent Living Skills Training is training to help people with disabilities gain any skills that can help them live more independently, such as money management training, parenting skills, braille education, and home management.

Peer Support is people with disabilities

working with other people with disabilities who are or want to live independently in the community. The purpose is to explore options and solve problems which often occur for people with disabilities such as adjustment to a newly-acquired disability, changes in living arrangements, learning to use community services, and adjustments to the community. Peers are role models and give support.

There are ten Texas Centers for Independent Living (CIL's) in the state, nine of which receive state independent living funds. Three CIL's function on 100% state funds for the core services and activities (indicated with asterisk).

1. Austin Resource Center for Independent Living (ARCIL) (San Marcos & Austin)
2. Crockett Resource Center for Independent Living (CRCIL) (Crockett)
3. Disabled Ability Resource Environment (DARE) (El Paso)
4. Houston Center for Independent Living (HCIL) (Houston)
5. Lifetime Independence for Everyone (LIFE)* (Lubbock)
6. Panhandle Action Center for Independent Living (PACILS) (Amarillo)
7. REACH of Dallas and Fort Worth*
8. ABLE (Odessa)
9. San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS)
10. Valley Association for Independent Living* (VAIL) (Pharr, Harlingen and Brownsville)

Services and activities consumers participate in through CIL's have varied outcomes that enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, the community at large reaps benefits of barrier reduction, attitudinal changes toward people with disabilities, education on disability issues, and inclusion of people with disabilities. There were 5,262 consumers served through Texas CIL's in 1994. The

communities in which they live also greatly benefited.

Through CIL services and activities individuals identify community-based supports that enhance their ability to participate in all aspects of society. Empowerment, transition from institutional settings to communities, and opportunities to learn with and from ones peers are just a few examples of the many benefits Texans with disabilities experience through involvement with CIL's.

The 3.5 million Texans with disabilities want to enjoy equal and full participation in life. Texas Centers for Independent Living provide essential services that help individuals eliminate the barriers to achieving their goals. It is imperative that the state of Texas make the \$3.1 million necessary funding available over the biennium to assure that the same level of services will be provided to Texans with disabilities through Centers for Independent Living.

ACTION: Due to the strong advocacy on the part of CTD and the Independent Living Centers, the Texas Legislative Budget Office reversed their initial cuts to Centers for Independent Living. The Senate Finance Committee appears likely to award the centers more funds in the state budget.

DEFINITION OF PERSONAL ATTENDANT SERVICES (PAS)

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that CTD adopt a new definition of PAS as follows: "Personal Assistance Services are any actions to assist a person with a disability in accomplishing activities of daily living which includes, but is not limited to, the following activities: bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, transferring, mobility, cooking, cleaning, laundering, dispensing of

routine medications (including injectibles) and delivery of health-related tasks by unlicensed persons, school and educational services, child care assistance, on-the-job assistance, assistive technology, respite, interpreting, reading services and monitoring and cognitive assistance like reminding a person to take his/her medicine, helping to balance a checkbook or to pay bills. "

STATE FUNDING PRIORITIES FOR TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

The Texas 74th Legislature must take decisive steps to ensure that funding is allocated to maintain current cross-disability programs, services, and benefits to Texas citizens. Further, funding must be appropriated to provide services to those currently on waiting lists for community-based health and human services. Funding should be provided in the following categories:

A. Service delivery for long-term personal assistance services.

Texas Department of Human Services

1. Client - Managed Attendant Services
2. In Home and Family Support
3. Nursing Facility Waiver
4. Community Living Assistance and Support Services
5. Family Care
6. Medically Dependent Children's Program
7. Special Services to the Handicapped - 24 Hour Attendant Care
8. Service intake workers (i.e. Nursing Facility Waiver).

Texas Rehabilitation Commission

1. Independent Living Centers
2. Vocational Rehabilitation Services
3. Personal Attendant Services Program
4. Deaf/Blind Multi-handicapped Services
5. Transition Services

Texas Commission for the Deaf

1. Interpreter Licensure and Regulation
2. Services to Older Hearing Impaired Texans
3. Interpreter Services

Texas Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired

1. Vocational Rehabilitation Services
2. Transition Services

Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation

1. Home and Community-Based Services Waiver
2. In Home and Family Support
3. Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) Targeted Waiver
4. Texas Children's Mental Health Plan
5. Clozapine
6. Supported Housing
7. Supported Employment

Texas Department of Health

1. Medicaid Vendor Drug Program
2. HIV Services
3. Prescription Medications
4. Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment
5. Chronically Ill and Disabled Children Services
6. Comprehensive Care Program

B. Civil Rights, ADA Implementation and ADA Education.

1. Texas Commission on Human Rights
2. Civil Rights Offices at all State Agencies
3. ADA Compliance Coordinators for all State Agencies
4. Require ADA Compliance for all State Contractors
5. Require General Services Commission to fully enforce ADA and comply with the State of Texas Architectural Barriers Act.
6. Enforce the Texas Architectural Barriers Act (TABAA) by coupling the currently required pre-construction approval of plans with pre-occupancy inspections through TABA Trained Inspectors at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

BACKGROUND: Due to inadequate funding over the past several years, programs providing community-based services and other programs that allow people with disabilities access to equal and full participation in life face long and growing waiting lists.

Texas Department of Human Services estimates its waiting lists to grow from its current 14,000 to over 18,000 from 1995 to 1997.

Civil rights investigations and physical access to public buildings, though mandated by the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act remains a programmatic barrier to many people with disabilities.

Funding is needed to ensure that complaints can be fully investigated and corrective action taken to resolve those complaints. Staffing is needed not only to ensure people with disabilities access to community-based services, but to also ensure that state and local governments comply with federal law and that civil rights complaints are fully investigated.

ACTION: CTD staff and its members testified before the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee. Advocates appeared at the legislative hearings in overwhelming numbers, and presented testimony in Senate and House hearings for TDHS, TRC, MHMR, TCBVI, and TCDHI. Testimony cited personal examples about the effectiveness of the programs, and called for more support so that the people currently on the waiting lists can get the services that they need.

TEXAS MEDICAID MANAGED CARE

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities can not endorse the implementation of a managed care initiative to replace the current Texas Medicaid delivery system, until we feel assured the proposal will

follow the safeguards and principles outlined in our position paper, "Texas Medicaid Reform - Inclusion of People with Disabilities: Principles, Components and Safeguards."

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities recommends reform of the Texas Medicaid system to a managed health care model with acute and long-term community-based personal assistance services through a Medicaid 1115 waiver if (1) it is accessible to and fully includes persons with all types of disabilities of all ages, (2) appropriately and adequately meets their health care needs for acute and community-based long-term care, and 3) people with disabilities are guaranteed involvement in the development of the waiver.

BACKGROUND: The State of Texas Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, on November 30, passed a motion that in an attempt to fundamentally reform the Texas Medicaid delivery system, the state should seek an 1115 (c) waiver with the intent of using the waiver to convert Medicaid into a comprehensive managed health care program. The Senate Committee on Health and Human Services passed a motion in earlier hearings on Medicaid reform June 1, 1994 that the goal of Medicaid reform would be to "improve access, quality, and cost containment."

The research collected by CTD indicates that managed care does not necessarily improve quality of care, and may promote inequality and inadequate access for people with disabilities. There is little evidence that current managed care systems significantly reduce cost, and depending upon the financial mechanisms utilized by a managed care plan, there may exist systemic financial incentives for physicians to under-treat, especially for populations with disabilities and/or chronic medical needs.

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities desires a comprehensive, non-discriminatory, equitable, accessible, and fully inclusive long term and acute care system for people with disabilities of all ages that expands the definition of health from the absence of disease and impairment to include the on-going maintenance of health and function, and that promotes independent living.

SAFEGUARDS FOR TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES: The system must shift Medicaid resources away from institutional care toward predominantly community-based services and supports including: personal assistance services (PAS), independent living supports, respite, and maintenance/or improvement of function services such as, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, assistive technology, consumer driven psychiatric and medical services and prescription drugs. Long-term and intermittent PAS must be available where persons with disabilities need them: home, work, community, school and during recreational activities.

- The system should combine all Medicaid long-term care and acute care funding streams, not including federal and state vocational rehabilitation funds.

- The system must not burden people with disabilities with disproportionate costs, phase them in at a slower rate than other Texans, save money by serving only current clients or at the cost of unmet health care required by the consumer.

- The income eligibility cap must be raised and a co-pay designed to prevent those working or with higher incomes from losing services thereby allowing individuals with long-term support needs, such as personal assistance services, to work without risk of losing services.

- The system must provide the maximum, appropriate, effective, and quality services with minimum administrative waste by the State of Texas maintaining management of the program; and implementing a fee for service structure rather than contracting with the insurance industry.

- The system must provide a recourse/appeals process involving an independent and impartial review panel that maintains client confidentiality.

- Consumer education on how to access the system and utilize the programs must be provided. There must be presumed eligibility from the onset to prevent unnecessary waits for service.

- The system appropriately and adequately meets the health care needs of Texans with disabilities for acute and long-term services and be based on functional-needs, rather than on medical diagnosis.

- The system must provide a choice of providers with a recognition that the primary care physicians for individuals with disabilities and chronic health conditions frequently are specialists. Voucher options that allow clients to go outside the system to acquire appropriate services must be implemented.

- Providers could increase by requiring any medical student accepting state assistance for loans or grants to accept Medicaid until their student loan is paid or for a set number of years. This could be tied to licensure and include non-physician providers such as occupational therapists, speech pathologists, optometrists.

ACTION: Medicaid Reform is currently at a state of inertia. No action is being taken by the Texas Legislature. CTD is following

the key committees, and will be ready to respond when Medicaid Reform gets rolling.

HISTORICALLY UNDER-UTILIZED BUSINESSES

RESOLUTION:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that CTD advocate the definitions and coverage of Historically Under-Utilized Businesses in Article IX, be expanded to encompass persons with disabilities who operate their own businesses.

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

The definitions and coverage of Historically Under-Utilized Businesses in Article IX, Sec. 98 of Texas Appropriations Act should be expanded to encompass persons with disabilities who own or control their own businesses.

BACKGROUND: Article IX, Sec. 98 (2)(a) of the Texas Appropriations Act defines HUB as: ". . . owned by one or more persons who have been historically underutilized because of their identification as women or as members of certain minority groups, including Black Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, and Native Americans who have suffered the effects of discriminatory practices or similar insidious circumstances over which they have no control;"

This language is neither ambiguous, nor exclusive. Asian Indian Americans were added in the Summer of 1994, but a request by CTD to the General Services Commission to amend the HUB rules to include Texans with disabilities in the state HUB practices was denied. In August the GSC requested the opinion of the Texas Attorney General on the proper scope of the definition of Historically Under-Utilized Business and whether they have the

authority to include businesses owned by people with disabilities.

The Texas Legislature has provided explicit language empowering the GSC to include any group "suffering from discrimination of other insidious circumstances" in the definition of Historically-Underutilized Business. The United States Congress has provided findings indicating that individuals with disabilities are the victim of such circumstances. The State of Texas has recognized the need to provide equitable access to individuals with disabilities, as evidenced by the existence of Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Texas MHMR, and others too numerous to name. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132) addresses government and discrimination against individuals with disabilities. An otherwise qualified business owned by an individual with a disability shall not, "by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or be subjected to discrimination" by the state. Texas Department of Human Services recognizes people with disabilities as a minority group and includes them in their agency HUB program.

The 3.5 million Texans with disabilities want to enjoy equal and full participation in life and the Coalition of Texans Disabilities asks that the Texas Legislature rectify this unjust omission from Minority Contracting Practices through Historically-Underutilized Businesses.

ACTION: CTD is actively following HUB legislation in the Texas Legislature. CTD is pressing members of the legislature to amend the current legislation to include People with Disabilities.

Defending the Architectural Barriers Act.

CTD quickly organized disability advocates to appear before the Texas Licensing and Regulation Board hearing on National Guest Homes, Inc. request to weaken the Architectural Barriers Act - Texas Accessibility Standards. The Architectural Barriers Advisory Committee voted unanimously to uphold the Architectural Barriers Act, and the TDLR board withdrew the proposal to weaken the standards. CTD scored an early victory, but the battle is far from over. This case is seen by the national media as a test of the state's ability to enforce ADA requirements. CTD intends to stand its ground and work to prevent any weakening of the ADA.

COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES

Proposed Budget

For the Year Ended December 31, 1995

BEGINNING CASH	\$ 10,000	EXPENSES	
INCOME		Accounting/Audit	\$ 6,000
Grants	\$164,000	Advertising	\$ 230
TPCDD	\$135,000	Attendant Svcs	\$ 1,800
CHD	\$ 25,000	Bank Charges	\$ 175
STIPEND	\$ 3,000	Capital Purchases	\$ 2,000
WEIR	\$ 1,000	Consulting	\$ 10,000
Org Membership Dues	\$ 5,800	Contract Labor	\$ 1,000
18 State @ \$200		Copies/Printing	\$ 8,000
22 Local @ \$100		Equipment Lease	\$ 3,800
Convention		Insurance/Building	\$ 500
200 Registration	\$ 8,000	Interpreters	\$ 3,000
Program Book	\$ 8,500	License/Permits	\$ 100
Members	\$ 2,500	CTD Conference	\$ 9,500
Corp's	\$ 6,000	Stipends	\$ 6,000
Fun*Run	\$ 4,500	Postage	\$ 3,100
Corp's \$2,000		Rent	\$ 11,040
Pledges \$2,500		Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 500
Calendar	\$ 12,000	Staff Education	\$ 500
\$1,000 per corp		Subscriptions/Dues	\$ 600
for a month page		Supplies	\$ 4,200
Charity Bingo	\$ 50,000	Telephone	\$ 7,000
Based on current profits		Staff Travel	\$ 5,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$262,800	Volunteer Travel	\$ 11,000
Donated Services from		T-Shirts	\$ 1,600
PAS Task Force		Salaries/Wages	\$126,000
and CTD Board	\$ 45,000	Payroll Related	\$ 20,000
TOTAL INCOME + DONATED	\$307,800	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$242,645
		Donated Services	\$ 45,000
		TOTAL EXPENSE + DONATED	\$287,645
		NET INCOME (EXPENSE)	\$ 20,155

CTD Award Winners

On Saturday, November 19, the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities honored **Robert Geyer**, Board member of the Texas Department of Human Services, **Nora Linares**, Texas Lottery Director, and **Representative Glen Maxey (D)** of Austin, with their highest awards.

Robert Geyer was awarded the *Justin W. Dart Meritorious Award* for his exceptional contribution to the independent living movement through his uncompromising commitment to the development and support of community-based services as alternatives to nursing homes.



Nora Linares received the *Public Servant of the Year Award* for her work to ensure unprecedented Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in the current 15,000 lottery retailers and all future lottery retailers. The Lottery Commission through an agreement secured by Coalition staff, members of Advocacy, Inc. and ADAPT, individually inspects all lottery retailers to ensure ADA compliance.



Representative Glen Maxey (D) from Austin helped to make this compliance possible by including a provision in Texas lottery law requiring ADA compliance: he was selected for the *Legislator of the Year Award* for his demonstrated outstanding leadership and progressive thinking.



The *Disability Dunce of the Year* was awarded to the **Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART Handiride)** system. This dubious award goes to them for their work to hinder and damage equal and full participation in life for Texans with disabilities. DART's Handiride has proposed increased rates to disabled riders only, and makes its riders wait indefinitely for rides, which makes it difficult for disabled riders who work to keep their jobs. Coalition members performed a comedy skit about DART's actions.



Statewide ADA Implementation Campaign

A Plan in Process - December 1994

A Statewide ADA Implementation Campaign was adopted by the Delegates to the 1994 CTD Annual Conference. The initiative will be initiated and completed by the end of September 1995. The goal is to have at least one business in each designated city become in compliance with the ADA before September 1995.

CTD will provide a skills training in ten cities to Regional ADA leaders and their teams of ten from these cities will "put their arms around businesses" and lead them to compliance. The ten cities tentatively identified based upon commitments made by delegates in attendance at the Assembly are: Austin, El Paso, San Antonio, Houston, Longview, Burkburnett/Wichita Falls, Bryan/College Station, McAllen/South Texas, Dallas and Lubbock. Through the leadership of the Advocacy Committee CTD and its members will:

- Develop or adapt a cross-disability ADA access survey.
- Train CTD membership on survey use in conjunction with outreach advocacy leadership and ADA training across Texas.
- Train CTD membership in negotiation/mediation with ADA non-compliant business.
- Local CTD members will survey non-compliant businesses and negotiate compliance.
- Local CTD members will report success in ADA compliance to the Advocacy Committee.
- CTD will formally recognize ADA compliant businesses.
- Advocacy Committee will report success as local successes meet statewide cross-disability criteria.
- CTD will hold media and recognition event at 1995 Delegate Assembly.

The Regional leaders and Regional Team Members will make the following commitments:

- a. A one year commitment.
- b. Attend required one or two day training sessions.
- c. Conduct a minimum of 10 assessments and surveys.
- d. Negotiate and mediate with businesses.
- e. Communicate back to the Advocacy Committee, who will communicate with the CTD membership on the progress through the newsletters.
- f. Conduct follow up visits to business to assure compliance has been made.
- g. Apply the skills learned at training sessions to the best of their ability.
- h. Facilitate and attend local planning meetings.

Next year the CTD Delegate Assembly is scheduled for September 23-24, 1995 in Corpus Christi. We will toast our success with the ADA compliance across Texas and recognize businesses who reach ADA compliance. Press releases will be sent and a press event will be held at the conference.

NATIONAL ISSUES

On November 8, the political ballgame changed overnight, bringing with it dramatic implications for Texans with disabilities. Republicans scored, Democrats lost. Voters issued a dramatic change in leadership on the national level. Nationally, Republicans gained control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Representative Newt Gingrich of Georgia is now Speaker of the House; Senator Bob Dole of Kansas is now Majority Leader. Key positions that will be held by Republicans in the U.S. Congress include:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEES

Chair, House Ways and Means - Representative Bill Archer (TX)
Chair, Education and Labor - Representative Bill Goodling (PA)
Chair, Public Works and Transportation - Representative Bud Shuster (PA)
Chair, Veterans Affairs - Representative Bob Stump (AZ)
Chair, Appropriations - Representative John Myers (IN)
Chair, Energy and Commerce - Representative Carlos Moorhead (CA)
Chair, Rules - Representative Gerald Solomon (NY)

SENATE COMMITTEES

Chair, Appropriations - Senator Mark Hatfield (OR)
Chair, Finance - Senator Bob Packwood (OR)
Chair, Rules - Senator Ted Stevens (AK)
Chair, Veterans - Senator Arlen Specter (PA)
Chair, Commerce - Senator Larry Pressler (SD)
Chair, Energy - Senator Frank Murkowski (AK)

The new change in leadership means we will have to fight even harder to have our voice heard on the national and state level.

On funding for Medicaid and other social spending the U.S. Republican Congressional members have already unveiled their agenda in their "Contract with America." Republican leaders pledged to bring to the floor bills that include:

- 1) A balanced budget amendment that could result in reduction of 20 to 50 percent in disability programs.
- 2) An across-the-board ban on unfunded mandates which may eliminate the guarantees of a free, appropriate public education for people with disabilities, (IDEA).
- 3) A cap on SSI that would affect 6 million elderly and disabled individuals.

As Justin Dart states, "...All this must be clarified. But it sound profoundly ominous...If this agenda, if these attitudes prevail, our dramatic progress of recent decades will be stalled, and many hard won gains lost."

UNITED STATES SENATE - 104th Congress

Senator Phil Gramm (202) 224-2934

Office Addresses

2323 Bryan, Dallas Tx., 75201 (214) 767-3000
222 E. Van Buren., #404, Harlingen Tx., 78550 (210) 423-6118
712 Main, Houston Tx., 77002 (713) 229-2766
113 Fed. Bldg., 1205 Texas Ave., Lubbock Tx 79401 (806) 743-7533
123 Pioneer Plz., #665, El Paso Tx., 79901 (915) 534-6896
InterFirst Plz., 102 N. College St., #201, Tyler Tx., 75702 (903) 593-0902

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (202) 224-5922

Office Addresses

961 Fed. Bldg., 300 E. 8th St., Austin Tx., 78701 (512) 482-5834
1919 Smith St., #800, Houston Tx., 77002 (713) 653-3456
Earle Cabell Bldg., 1100 Commerce St., #7C14, Dallas Tx., 75242 (214) 767-0577
senator@hutchison.senate.gov (E-mail)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - 104th Congress

7 W.R. (Bill) Archer (R) (202) 225-2571

1003 Wirt Rd., #311, Houston Tx., 77055 (713) 467-7493

26 Richard K. (Dick) Arme y (R) (202) 225-7772

1301 S. Bowen Rd., #422, Arlington Tx., 76013 (817) 461-2555
250 S. Stemmons, #210, Lewisville Tx., 75067 (214) 214-221-4527

6 Joe L. Barton (R) (202) 225-2002

InterFirst Tower, #507, Conroe Tx., 77301 (409) 760-2291
809 University Ave., #222 Creekwide Plz., Bryan Tx., 77840 (409) 846-9791
InterFirst Bank Bldg., #101, Ennis Tx., 75119 (214) 875-8488
barton06@hr.house.gov (E-Mail)

25 Ken Bentsen (D) (202) 225-7508

23 Henry Bonilla (R) (202) 225-4511

11120 Wurzbach, #300, San Antonio Tx., 78230 (210) 697-9055
1300 Matamoros St., #113B, Laredo Tx., 78040 (210) 726-4682
100 E. Broadway, #101, Del Rio Tx., 78840 (210) 774-6547
4400 N. Big Spring, #211, Midland Tx., 79705 (915) 686-8833

5 John Bryant (D) (202) 225-2231

8035 E. R.L. Thornton Freeway, #518, Dallas Tx., 75228 (214) 767-6554

1 Jim Chapman (D) (202) 225-3035

P.O. Box 538, Sulphur Springs Tx., 75482 (903) 885-8682
Fed. Bldg., #G-15, 100 E. Houston St., Marshall Tx., 75670 (903) 938-8386
P.O. Box 248, New Boston Tx., 75510 (903) 628-5594

16 Ronald D. Coleman (D) (202) 225-4831

Fed. Bldg., 700 E. San Antonio St., #723, El Paso Tx., 79901 (915) 534-6200
P.O. Bldg., #304, Pecos Tx., 79772 (915) 445-6218

19 Larry Combest (R) (202) 225-4005

1205 Texas Ave., #613, Lubbock Tx., 79401 (806) 763-1611
5809 S. Western, #205, Amarillo Tx., 79110 (806) 353-3945
511 W. Ohio, #114, Midland Tx., 79701 (915) 687-0926
3800 E. 42d St., #205, Odessa Tx., 79762 (915) 362-2631

15 E. (Kika) de la Garza (D) (202) 225-2531

1418 Beech St., McAllen Tx., 78501 (210) 682-5545
Alice Fed. Bldg., #210, 401 E. 2d St., Alice Tx., 78332 (512) 664-2215

22 Thomas D. (Tom) DeLay (R) (202) 225-5951

12603 Southwest Frwy., #285, Stafford Tx., 77477 (713) 240-3700

10 Lloyd Doggett (D) (202) 225-4865

11 Chet Edwards (D) (202) 225-6105

710 University Tower, 700 S. University Parks Dr., Waco Tx., 76706 (817) 752-9600

8 Jack Fields, Jr. (R)

111 E. University Dr., #216, College Station Tx., 77480 (409) 846-6068
300 W. Davis, #507, Conroe Tx., 77301 (409) 756-8044
9810 FM1960 Bypass W., #165, Deerbrook Plz., Humble Tx., 77338 (409) 540-8000

24 Martin Frost (D) (202) 225-3605

3020 S.E. Loop 820, Ft. Worth Tx., 76140 (817) 293-9231
400 S. Zang Blvd., #1319, Dallas Tx., 75208 (214) 948-3401
318 W. Main St., #102, Arlington Tx., 76010 (817) 795-3291

12 Preston Geren (D) (202) 225-5071

100 E. 15th St., #500, Ft. Worth Tx., 76102 (817) 338-0909

20 Henry B. Gonzalez (D) (202) 225-3236

#B-124 Fed. Bldg. 727 E. Durango St., San Antonio Tx., 78206 (512) 229-6195

29 Gene Green (D) (202) 225-1688

5502 Lawndale, Houston Tx., 77023 (713) 923-9961

4 Ralph M. Hall (D) (202) 225-6673

104 N. San Jacinto St., Rockwall Tx., 75087 (214) 771-9118
119 N. Fed. Bldg., Sherman Tx., 75090 (214) 892-1112
211 Fed. Bldg., Tyler Tx., 75702 (214) 597-3729

30 Eddie Bernice Johnson (D) (202) 225-8885

2525 McKinney Ave., #1565, Dallas Tx., 75201 (214) 922-8885

3 Sam Johnson (R) (202) 225-4201

6600 LBJ Freeway, #190, Dallas Tx., 75240 (214) 767-4848
samtx03@hr.house.gov (E-Mail)

14 Greg Laughlin (D) (202) 225-2831

312 S. Main St., Victoria Tx., 77901 (512) 576-1231
221 E. Main St., #203, Round Rock Tx., 78664 (512) 244-3765

18 Sheila Jackson Lee (D) (202) 225-3816

27 Solomon P. Ortiz (D) (202) 225-7742

3649 Leopard St., #510, Corpus Christi Tx., 78408 (512) 883-5868
3505 Boca Chica Blvd., Brownsville Tx., 78521 (512) 541-1242

21 Lamar S. Smith (R) (202) 225-4236

1st Federal Bldg., 1100 NE Loop 410, #640 San Antonio Tx., 78209 (210) 821-5024
201 W. Wall St., #104, Midland Tx., 79701 (915) 687-5232
1006 Junction Hwy., Kerrville Tx., 78028 (512) 895-1414
221 E. Main, #318, Round Rock 78664, (512) 218-4221
33 E. Twohig, #302, San Angelo Tx., 76903 (915) 653-3971

17 Charles Stenholm (D) (202) 225-6605

903 E. Hamilton St., Stamford Tx., 79553 (915) 773-3623
341 Pine St., Abilene Tx., 79604 (915) 673-7221

9 Steve Stockman (R) (202) 225-6565

28 Frank M. Tejeda (D)

(202) 225-1640
1313 SE Military Dr., #115,
San Antonio Tx., 78214
(210) 924-7383

13 William M. "Mac" Thornberry (R)

(202) 225-3706

2 Charles Wilson (D)

(202) 225-2401
701 N. 1st St., #201,
Lufkin Tx., 75901
(409) 637-1770
cwilson@hr.house.gov



COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES

1995 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

ACCESS- San Antonio Catholic Archdiocese
2815 Woodcrest
San Antonio, TX 78209
Attn: Alice Roos
210/828-5848

ADAPT
1339 Lamar Sq. Dr.
Ste B
Austin, TX 78704
Attn: Bob Kafka
512/442-0252

**Adults and Children W/
Learning Disabilities**
8929 Viscount #112
El Paso, TX 79925
Attn: Ann Lemke
915/591-8080

Advocacy, Inc.
7800 Shoal Creek Blvd.
#171-E
Austin, TX 78757
Attn: Judy Sokolow
512/454-4816

**American Council of
The Blind of Texas**
Richard Villa
9305 Cedar Ridge Rd.
Bedford, Texas 76021
817/267-9322

**Amarillo Disabled in
Action**
P.O. Box 2662
Amarillo, TX 78704
Attn: Terry Henson
806/352-1500

**Austin Resource Center
for Independent Living**
5555 N. Lamar Blvd.
Suite J-125
Austin, TX 78751
Attn: Ron Rocha
512/467-0744

**Directors Association for
Texas Centers for
Independent Living**
P.O. Box 5035
McAllen, TX 78502-5035
David Vanderhee, Chair
1-800-880-7733

**Grupo Dignidad Igualdad
y Oportunidad
(Grupo DIO)**
P.O. Box 27074
El Paso, TX 79926-7074
Attn: Dolores Salazar
915/566-4319

**Disabled Ability Resource
Environment**
8929 Viscount, #101
El Paso, TX 79925
Attn: Dr. Tom Carter
915/591-0800

**Houston Center for
Independent Living**
7000 Regency Square Blvd.
#160
Houston, TX 77036-3209
Attn: Rand Metcalfe
713/974-4621
FAX 713/974-6927

**Houston Council of the
Blind**
P.O. Box 130402
Houston, TX 77219-0402
1475 W. Gray, Ste. 183
Houston, Texas 77019
Attn: Michael Garrett
713/524-4557

**Independent Living
Research Utilization**
2323 S. Shepard
Suite 1000
Houston, TX 77019
Attn: Lex Frieden, Sr.
Vice President
713/520-0232
FAX 713/520-5785

**Lone Star Chapter -
Paralyzed Veterans
of America**
10723 Plano Rd.
Suite. 100
Dallas, TX 75233
Attn: Joe Jackson
1-800-347-5987

MIGHT
P.O. Box 49721
Austin, TX 78765
Attn: Redge Westbrook
512/450-3631

**Panhandle Action Center
for Independent Living**
3608 S. Washington
Amarillo, TX 79110
Attn: Judy Baker
806/352-1500

REACH of Fort Worth
617 7th Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76104
Attn: Jonas Schwartz
817/870-9082

REACH of Dallas
8625 King George,
Suite 210
Dallas, TX 75235
Attn: Charlotte Stewart
214/630-4796

Reclamation, Inc.
HC4 Box 254
Blanco, TX 78606
Attn: Don Culwell
512/833-4946

**San Antonio Disability
Advocates**
3635 Southeast Military
San Antonio, TX 78223
Attn: Jerome Wright
210/337-3050
Fax: 210/337-3432

San Antonio Independent Living Services
8610 Broadway Ste. 420
San Antonio, TX 78214
Attn: Larry Correu
210/805/0295

Students for an Accessible Learning Environment
El Paso Community College
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998
Attn: Tom Pugh
915/857-3670

Texas Advocates
c/o the ARC of Texas
P.O. Box 5368
Austin, TX 78763-5368
Attn: Kevin Tracy
512/454-6694

Texas Association of the Deaf
2204 Laramie Trail
Austin, TX 78745
Attn: Jerry Hassell

Texas Commission for the Deaf & Hearing Impaired
4800 N. Lamar, Ste. 310
Austin, TX 78756
Attn: Mike Broderick

Texas Deaf/Blind Association
554 S. Summit Ave. #808
Fort Worth, TX 76104-2048
Attn: Jack Earwood
817/292-6743

Texas Deaf Caucus
P.O. Box 59674
Dallas, Texas 75229
Attn: Don Stewart
214/239-8827 (TDD)

Office of Services to Persons with Disabilities - Texas Dept. of Human Services
P.O. Box 149030,
MC W-106
Austin, Texas 78714
Attn: D.J. Johnson
512/450-3233
Texas Head Injury

Association - State
6633 Hwy 290 East
Ste. 301
Austin, TX 78723
Attn: Darlene Plyter
512/467-6872

Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association - State
805 Chelsea Blvd., Ste. B
Houston, TX 77002
Attn: Bob Kilpatrick
713/520-8782
FAX 713/520-8217

Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association - Southeast
2002 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77025
Attn: Clarence Steele
713/794-7994
FAX 713/794-7728

Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association - Greater Austin
Rt. 1, Box 117
Georgetown, TX 78662
Attn: Frank Homesley

Texas Paralyzed Veterans Association - San Antonio
8726 Thatch
San Antonio, TX 78240
Attn: Vernon Spurlock
210/648-1042

Texas Rehabilitation Commission Consumer Affairs
4900 N. Lamar Blvd.
Austin, TX 78751
Attn: Kaye Beneke
512/483-4000

Texas School for the Deaf
P.O. Box 3538
Austin, TX 78764
Attn: Marvin Sallop
512/442-7821

Crockett Resource Center for Independent Living
P.O. Box 875
Crockett, TX 75835
Attn: Vera Randle
409/544-2811

United Cerebral Palsy Association of Texas
900 Congress Ave., #220
Austin, TX 78701
Attn: Patty Anderson
512/472-8696

Valley Association for Independent Living
P.O. Box 5035
McAllen, TX 78502-5035
Attn: David Vanderhee
1-800-880-7733

1995 Delegates
Assembly

Corpus Christi

Sept. 23-24

Sponsor: VAIL

COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES BOARD PROFILE

Sherry Hurst, President

Sherry is from Lubbock, and has quadriplegia from polio and post polio syndrome. She is a member of the Texas Rehabilitation Advisory Council, the Lubbock Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities, and Advisory Council for DHS Personal Care Facilities.

Candi Ware, Vice President

Candi is 29 years old and has Mental Retardation. She currently resides in College Station. Candi has been a member of Texas Advocates for seven years and is now the president.

Dolores Salazar, Secretary

Dolores is a 36 year-old quadriplegic with cerebral palsy and a severe speech disability. Dolores serves as Treasurer for CTD member organization Dignidad, Igualdad, y Oportunidad (DIO) and serves on the Board of Disabled Ability Resource Environment (DARE).

Mark Hamman, Treasurer

Mark is a 30-year old paraplegic from Corpus Christi. He is the Fundraising chair and the Treasurer for CTD. He is the President of Maximum Mobility, a durable medical company.

Christine Pacetti, At-Large

Christine had polio at 9 months old. She served as the first President of the San Antonio Citizens Concerned about Handicapism (SACCH), now San Antonio Disabled Advocates (SADA). She earned her MSW in 1993 and is currently employed as a social worker.

Victor Ali, At-Large

Victor is 49 years old and lives in Mission. He is a C6&7 incomplete quadriplegic. He has a degree from U.T. Pan American with BA in Rehabilitative Services.

Redge Westbrook, At-Large

Redge who graduated from University of Texas, Austin is an Attorney at law and works for the DHS Office on Services to Persons with Disabilities. He is currently on the Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities, and chairs the CTD Legislative Committee.

Richard Villa, At-Large

Richard Villa is the current President of the American Council of the Blind of Texas, and board member of the American Council of the Blind, National. He has been involved in advocacy and service for over twenty years. He is a computer programmer and consultant.

Joe Jackson, At-Large

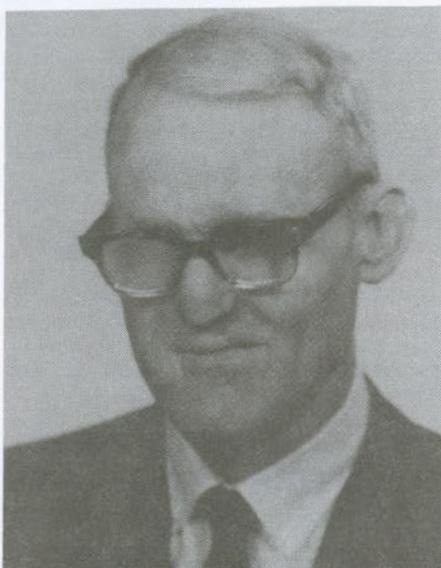
Joe is a 42 year-old paraplegic. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors and serving as the advocacy director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America - Lone Star Chapter.

Angel Ramos, At-Large

Angel is an energetic deaf person from Rowlett, Texas. He is an active member of the Texas Deaf Caucus, and has received training from the Disability Rights Education and Defense fund on ADA.

In Memory

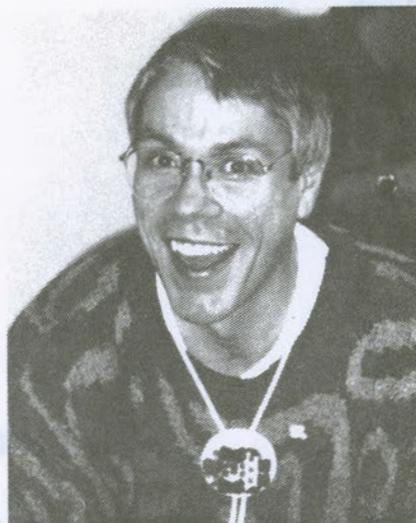
Durward K. McDaniel 1915-1994



Durward McDaniel was a pioneer advocate for disability rights. He left behind a legacy of successes in cross-disability advocacy. He was a founding member of the American Council of the Blind and a national representative for ACB from 1968 to 1981. Durward was also a founder of the American Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities. He was born in Oklahoma and lost his sight at the age of 14 as a result of an oil field accident. He attended the Oklahoma School for the Blind, the University of Oklahoma, and its law school. He was qualified to practice before the Supreme Court.

Durward has been an active member of the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities for as long as anyone can remember. We will miss him, but will not forget him and his contributions to the disability rights movement.

Paul Clover 1953-1994



Paul Clover was a tireless advocate for people living with AIDS. He is best remembered as the vision and the energy that established Waterloo Counseling Center and AIDS Services of Austin. Paul served as the Executive Director of Waterloo Counseling Center. During this time, he was instrumental in Austin's first response to AIDS, the Austin AIDS project. It later grew into AIDS Services of Austin where he served as the first Director of Education. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Texas Tech University.

Paul was honored by the Austin Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers as Public Citizen of the Year in 1988. He was honored in 1994 by the Texas Human Rights Foundation for efforts on the behalf of persons living with AIDS.

As an advocate for disability issues, Paul joined the seven who visited Governor Ann Richards on July 16, 1994. Paul was the team member to press the governor to be our "bully pulpit" on ADA which resulted in the implementation by the governor of the ADA Business Leaders Network.

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 14

312 W. 12th Street, Suite 405
Austin, Texas 78701
(512)478-3366

Address Correction Requested

1995-96 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

President

Sherry Hurst, 4814 46th
Lubbock, TX 79414
806/795-4278 806/796-0510 FAX

Vice President

Candi Ware, 1207 Willow Oak
Bryan, TX 77802
409/774-4711 (H)

Secretary

Dolores Salazar, 2831 Taylor
El Paso, TX 79930
915/566-4319 (H)
915/755-7687 (W-Marc)

Treasurer

Mark Hamman,
2033 Airline Rd. Ste. E-4
Corpus Christi, TX 78412
512-993-4800 512-993-5311 FAX

Staff

Belinda Carlton, Laura Brown
Bart Kelly, Dallas Patterson,
Maria Tamez

At-Large Positions thru November 1995

Christine Pacetti, 7418 Wineberry
San Antonio, TX 78240
210-523-0544

Victor Ali, 2004 Casino Drive
Mission, TX 78572
210-781-78572

Redge Westbrook,
4400 Malaga Drive
Austin, TX 78759
512-450-3631

At-Large Positions thru November 1996

Richard Villa, 3905 Cedar Ridge
Bedford, TX 76021
817-267-9322

Angel Ramos
8210 Columbia Drive
Rowlett, TX 75088
214-412-0511

Joe Jackson, 3925 Forest Lane
Garland, TX 75042
817-784-0638

Committee Chairs

Ron Cranston, Advocacy

4703 Philco Dr.
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 441-0029

Christine Mlynek, Nominations

1821 Santa Anna
San Antonio, TX 78201
(210) 734-7850

David Vanderhee, Convention

P.O. Box 2946
McAllern, TX 78502
(210) 781-7733

Candi Ware, and Christine Mlynek Membership

Mark Hamman, Fundraising

Redge Westbrook, Legislative