

#### COALITION OF TEXANS WITH DISABILITIES

## NEWSLETTER

Volume VI, Number 1

Winter 1983-84

# Disabled But Able to Vote Week by P

by Peg Nosek

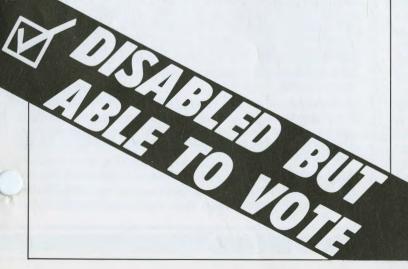
Members of the CTD have taken a definite stand on voting as a priority issue for 1984. At the recent Delegate Assembly in El Paso, CTD members passed a strongly worded resolution to conduct voter registration, education and mobilization activities during the week of March 10-18, 1984 as various CTD member organizations will be conducting a wide variety of activities throughout the State. Some of these activities will include voter education rallies with prominent speakers from across the State, voter registration, candidate forums, press conference, etc.

The CTD main office has materials available on how to conduct such activities as well as (free) "Disabled But Able to Vote" bumper stickers, posters and T-shirts for

\$5.00 a piece.

At the Delegate Assembly, the following people volunteered to be interim coordinators for their area to assist in planning events and distributing materials. Please feel free to contact your local representative if you would like to be involved in this exciting campaign.

Austin	Peg Nosek (512) 442-9755
	Dennis Dildy (512) 825-3551
	Vicki Harris (713) 795-4252
	Jim Bruce (214) 287-4974
El PasoTom Ki	mble (915) 598-6952 or 541-4630
Lubbock	Lee Kitchens (806) 741-3418
Amarillo	Marshall Mitchell (806) 376-5111.



## Delegate Assembly Passed Resolutions

Editor's Note: The 1983 CTD Delegate Assembly passed 21 resolutions. To conserve on space, the editors have consolidated the six resolutions expressing CTD's appreciation to various individuals into one resolution and summarized the remaining 15 resolutions by reprinting the "action to be taken" and omitting the reasons leading up to the action taken. Copies of the resolutions in their entirety may be obtained from the CTD office.

1. Appointments urged to Job Training Partnership Act

Coordinating Council

Be it resolved that CTD strongly urge Governor White to appoint at least two qualified disabled persons who represent authentic disability rights advocacy organizations as members of the Coordinating Council for the Job Training and Partnership Act.

(submitted by Peg Nosek)

2. Support of multi-modal transportation systems for the disabled

Be it resolved that CTD hereby supports a multimodal system of transportation for the disabled citizens of the State of Texas and we further urge the transportation systems and governmental authorities within the State of Texas to support this viewpoint.

(submitted by Paralyzed Veterans of America)

3. Disabled but able to vote campaign

Be it resolved that CTD will make as the top priority for 1983-84 the registration, education and mobilization of disabled voters under the title "Disabled But Abled to Vote" campaign, and

Be it further resolved that the CTD will, cooperate with its state and local member organizations and other groups concerned with this issue, encourage, coordinate and be a resource for a week long series of rallies throughout Texas to promote this campaign, and

Be it further resolved that the CTD will cooperate with and support the "Disabled But Abled to Vote" campaign of the American Coalition of Citizens with

Disablilities.

(submitted by Peg Nosek)

4. Continued funding of VISTA

Be it resolved that CTD urge the Congress and the President to appropriate funds for the continuation or expansion of VISTA.

(submitted by Peg Nosek)

DELEGATE ASSEMBLY continued on page 6.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

# Developmental Disabilities State Wide Forums by Stev

by Steve Currier

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities is holding it's 1984 Regional Priority Services Forums throughout the State of Texas. The purpose of these forums is threefold:

- to provide an overview of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities;
- to explain the structure, purpose, and priority service areas of the developmental disabilities program;
- to obtain as much public input as possible regarding the 1984-85 priority service areas of alternative community living arrangement and nonvocational social developmental services.

The first State wide forum was recently held in Austin on November 4th. More than 100 people attended the forum, and 27 people spoke to a Hearing Panel of 11 members of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities (TPCDD). Priorities identified were:

- community based living arrangements;
- innovative residential options developmental disabled (D.D.) that are currently underserved or not served at all;
- support services to families with D.D. persons living at home;
- innovative coordination and planning efforts that would provide community and statewide information and referral services, advocacy and assistance to D.D. persons and their families.

Below is the schedule for the remaining TPCDD forums for 1984. If you have any additional questions regarding these forums, please contact Nanci Gibbons at Advocacy, Inc. at (512) 475-5543.

CITY	DATE	LOCATION
Corpus Christi	1/27/84	First United Methodist Church
		900 Shoreline Boulevard
		Corpus Christi, Texas
		(Across from the Holiday Inn)
Rio Grande	2/ 3/84	
Valley		1900 South Schunior
		Edinburg, Texas
Dallas	2/10/84	Flagship Inn
Fort Worth		601 Avenue H East
		Arlington, Texas
Tyler	2/17/84	MHMR Center of East Texas
		Conference Room
		2323 West Front Street
		Tyler, Texas
Houston	2/24/84	Sheraton Kings Inn
		1301 Nasa Road One
		Houston, Texas
Midland	3/16/84	Midland Opportunity Center
Odessa		2701 North "A" Street
		Midland, Texas
San Antonio		(location not available)
El Paso	4/ 6/83	Marriott Hotel
		1600 Airway Boulevard
		El Paso, Texas
Lubbock	4/13/84	Convention Center
		1501 6th Street
		Lubbock, Texas

## San Antonio Work Training Project

by Dennis Dildy

Kelly Air Force Base and San Antonio's Education Service Center, Region 20 have joined together on a successful work training project for disabled students.

Kelly AFB agreed last February to provide the enrollees of the Region 20 work training project with job experience in warehouse and packaging type duties. Student trainees receive instructions in a 23-step packaging operation that requires a variety of sorting, wrapping and sealing.

Whenever a job vacancy may occur, the trainees are given an opportunity to apply for that job, provided they demonstrate the functional skills required, after at least 6 months of on-the-job training.

In addition to the work training program, Region 20 conducts one independent living program where four semi-supervised apartments have been established in the community to provide independent living training. The three major areas of development emphasized in the training are domestic living skills, social skills and family planning.

#### Vista Update

by Linda Wrg

Austin, Texas 78705

Congress passed and President Reagan signed a continuing resolution through September 30, 1984, authorized at the FY 1983 funding level. This resolution will allow all current VISTA Volunteers to continue their VISTA year. Because Congress did not increase the funding levels, there are no plans to place, extend or enroll any VISTA Volunteers. When there is an increase in funds, the program can expand.

Hopefully, Congress will vote in an increase in the funding level when Congress reconvenes in February, 1984.

#### CTD's Editor's Note:

The CTD newsletter is edited and published quarterly by the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, a state-wide cross disability consumer group. Any member who wishes to submit future articles for publication should send them to:

Judy Wingard-Westbrook, Co-Editor ARCIL Steve Currier, Co-Editor 2818 San Gabriel

The following are publication dates and deadlines for submitting articles:

April 15th newsletter	February 24, 19	8
July 15th newsletter	May 25, 19	
October 15th newsletter	. August 24 19	84

# WTAH & NAC Promote the Hiring of Disabled Persons by Ann Lemke

The West Texas Association for the Handicapped (WTAH) in conjunction with the Native American Consortium (NAC), is attempting to start a small business venture in which the aim is to hire disabled persons to do a variety of repair services and small construction jobs, such as wheelchair ramps and other items required by homes and private businesses for handicapped accessibility. Additionally, the disabled individual having the repair work done will receive a discount.

This business will be promoted among WTAH's members and the community of El Paso through mail-outs, newspaper advertising and personal contacts. In return, a portion of the proceeds will go to the WTAH.

Long-term projects include wheelchair repair and the production of prosthetic devices for amputees in which one WTAH board member, Bud Bengtson, has already received a patent.

### Southwestern Bell Speaks at N.C.E.H. National Meeting

by Larry Johnson

Past Coalition of Texans with Disabilities President, Larry Johnson, was invited by the Industry-Labor Council of the National Center on Employment of the Handicapped as a representative of Southwestern Bell to it's 1983 National Conference in New York on October 18-19, 1983.

Larry Johnson, assistant staff supervisor-employment and the company's handicapped specialist in San Antonio, described Southwestern Bell's program for the council members.

Southwestern Bell's program consist of eight specialists throughout a five-state area who are trained to help handle issues concerning employment of disabled persons. The specialists help match disabled person's to jobs, consult with employees about workplace accommodations and concerns as well as providing disability awareness seminars to employees.

The National Council comprises representatives from 95 national companies and labor unions. At the conference, representatives from 20 companies spoke about employment issues, recruiting, job concerns and integration of disabled people into the workplace.

Conference coordinator Rose Harvey said, "It's signifiant that we had an operational program to discuss, when other major corporations were still talking theory."



Commissioner Arrel, TRC, and Mike Sledge, Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities run a tight race in support of CTD.

### CTD Jog Rama ...a Running Success!

by Bob Kafka

On Sunday, November 20th, as the sun rose over Tony Burger Center, the sounds of trampling feet and unoiled wheelchairs could be heard circling the ¼-mile track for the Austin Part II Version of CTD's Jog-Rama. The Part I Version of the Austin CTD Jog-Rama occurred on Friday, November 11th, as the students and staff at the Texas School for the Deaf kicked off a series of mini-Jog-Rama's in Amarillo, Commerce, College Station, and San Antionio where approximately 400 joggers and rollers ran and rolled to raise funds for CTD's 1984 program year.

The Jog-Rama was an opportunity for member organizations of the Coalition to assist CTD by getting their members out to run, jog, walk, or roll for one hour. CTD's goal of Jog-Rama is to raise over \$20,000.

Commissioner Max Arrell with the Texas Rehabilitation Commission assisted in bringing CTD's goal closer to being a reality. The Commissioner ran 27 laps and raised over \$3,000 all by himself. Not bad for a bureaucrat!

Our own bureaucrats like CTD President Marshall Mitchell, helped in Amarillo by meandering for 21 laps. Larry Johnson, CTD's Past President, ran stride for stride with former board member, Dennis Dildy, for an exhausting 18 laps. Bobbie Simpson, Chairperson of the Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons (GCDP) and Virginia Roberts, GCDP Executive Director, saunteered a total of 34 laps with Bobbie rolling 20 laps and Virginia going 14 laps.

Not to be outdone, National Council member and local son of Austin, Justin Dart, Jr. dashed a rapid lap around in support of CTD. Last but not least, CTD's Executive Director, Linda Wren, ran 31 laps in San Antonio on Saturday, November 19, and another 31 laps in Austin. This dedication is way beyond the call of duty.

Many thanks need to be given to all those runners, walkers, joggers, rollers and volunteers who are really the one's who made the Jog-Rama a success!

# CTD DELEGATE ASSEMBLY 1983



Lee Kitchens chats with Sam Hill.

Libby Doggett addresses the Delegate Assembly.

## A Decade of Choice

by Larry Johnson

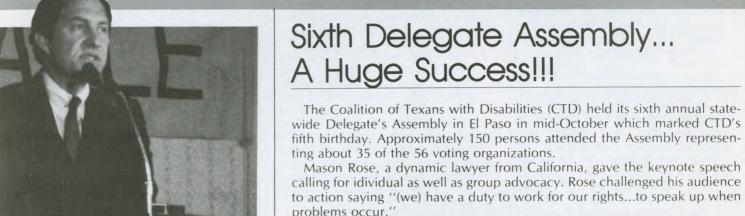
To borrow a phrase from the 1960's national movement for Civil Rights:

"We are better off today than we were yesterday, but we're not as well off as we will be tommorrow'

We are the architects of our own future. We can shape the world by our actions and attitudes as individuals and as organizations. We can make a difference in this decade!...the decade of DISABLED CITIZENS. It is our decade of choice.



Delegates from San Antonio Insight, Inc. Caucus.



Another highlight of the convention was a debate between candidates for the Senatorial seat vacated by John Tower. Bob Krueger and Libby Doggett, representing state Senator Lloyd Doggett, answered questions for over an hour and provided the group with important information regarding their campaign platforms.

In addition to the Assembly electing a new slate of officers and board members which can be found on page eight of the newsletter, the members passed 21 resolutions found on page one and continued on page six of the newsletter.

Bob Kruger gives his views on disability issues.



Delegates listen attentively to speakers.

First place display belongs to Southwest Center for the Hearing Impaired.

> Dick Bell asks a question from the audience.





DELEGATE ASSEMBLY—continued from page 1.

5. Appointment of Internal CTD election committee

Be it resolved that an election committee be appointed to study different processes of elections and report their findings to the Board for subsequent approval and implementation.

> (submitted by Paralyzed Veteran's of America)

6. CTD opposes phone rate increases Be it resolved that CTD actively opposes the rate hike request of Southwestern Bell before the Public Utilites Commission of Texas and opposes any future attempts of Southwestern Bell to seek authorization of local measured rate structure, and

Be it further resolved that CTD requests the Commissioners of the Public Utility Commission to make a study of the impact of the proposed increase on disabled Texans and to provide for a lifeline rate to offer reasonable service at

a reasonable price.

(submitted by MIGHT & ARCIL) 7. Establishment of TDHR committee to review servics for the disabled

Be it resolved that CTD communicate to appropriate TDHR departments and staff that a committee be established to review their services in regard to disabled persons and that this review be focused on developing a long rame plan for increased participation of disabled persons.

(submitted by Bob Kafka) 8. Increase appropriation funds for

community care programs

Be it resolved that CTD will advocate for increased allocation and appropriation of funds for programs in community care services such as supervised living, special services to the handicapped, transitional living and pilot programs for attendant care ser-

(submitted by MIGHT II of Austin) 9. Recruiting Congress to revise

H.U.D. regulations

Be it resolved that CTD ask their member organizations to contact their respective congressional representatives regarding the need for revision of H.U.D. regulations to demand support for and increase in the number of accessible housing units, both one and two bedroom, that would accommodate severely disabled persons. (submitted by MIGHT II of Austin)

10. Opposition to current Board of Education eligibility rules

Be it resolved that the President of CTD will correspond with the Board of Education indicating the organization's opposition to the age eligibility rule change and encourage the State Board of Education to rescind the rule change and reinstate the former rule which requires that the schools teach children in special education through age 21. Copies of this letter will be sent to the State Board of Education, the Texas Education Agency Commissioner and Governor Mark White.

(submitted by Jim Bruce) 11. CTD utilization of "Disabled

but Able to Vote" slogan

Be it resolved that CTD will utilize the slogan "Disabled but able" on all correspondence and encourage it's member organization to do the same.

12. Support of the National Council on the Handicapped and it's

policies

Be it resolved that CTD strongly urges the President and the National Council on the Handicapped to act in all due hast to implement this policy within all levels of government and undertake agressive measures to encourage cooperation from the private sec-

Be it further resolved that the President, Congress and National Council continue the commendable practice of involving disabled persons at the highest level of decision making and planning within his administration.

(submitted by Peg Nosek) 13. CTD urges the activation of the Council on Disabilities

Be it resolved that CTD urges the Office of the Governor to move with all due haste to appoint and activate the Council on Disabilities and encourage them to accept the Long Range Plan for Texans with Disabilities and begin implementation immediately, and

Be it resolved that the Governor continue the commendable practice of involving disabled persons at the highest levels of decision making and planning within his administration.

(submitted by Peg Nosek) 14. CTD urges support of H.J.R. 309

Be it resolved that all concerned delegates and member organizations contact their elected representatives to urge support of H.J.R. 309 (the designation of Keller Helen Deaf-Blind Awareness Week during the last week in June). (submitted by Dick Bell, S.A.C.C.H.)

15. Appreciation to Texas Rehabilitation Commission and the Commissioner.

Be it resolved that CTD expresses its appreciation to TRC and Commissioner Max Arrell in a letter stating our thanks for their support of the Jog Rama and continued support of the Independent Living movement and rights of disabled persons.

The following organizations and individuals were recognized in separate resolutions of commendation, appreciation and thank you at the

Delegate Assembly.

Ms. Linda Wren, VISTA Coordinator/Mr. Joe Dunsenbury, Chairperson, Nat. Council on the Handicapped/Mr. Itzak Perlman, concert violinist/The El Paso Center of the Deaf/The El Paso Host Committee/The Rodeway Inn of El Paso

## Wheelchair Games Set for April



The Southwest Wheelchair Athletic Association (S.W.A.A.) will be hosting the 9th Annual Wheelchair Games April 6-8 on the campus of the University

Individuals from Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana will compete in events such as track (100 meter, 200 meter, 400 meter...), field (discus, javelin, shot-put, club-throw), swimming (freestyle, backstroke, breast...), table tennis, weight lifting, archery, bowling and motorized wheelchair events. Each individual will be placed in a classification with others of similar physical capabilities. The games gives one an opportunity to participate in sports for competiveness, physical fitness and fun.

For more information, contact SWAA at the following: P.O. Box

20803/Houston, Texas 77025/(713) 666-6707

## Welcome CTD's New Members

ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CITIZENS

1405 N. Main Ave., Suite 240 San Antonio, TX 78212 PHONE: (512) 299-1004 Contact: Randall Bain

Local Associate Member

for local and \$50.00 annually for state.

Individual Members are persons wishing to support the work of CTD. Dues are \$5.00 annually. Annual Subscription to CTD newsletter (non-members only) \$5.00.

This organization is a non-profit volunteer group of parents, relatives and professionals working with the mentally retarded and friends of the mentally retarded population. The group is

dedicated to improving the services, opportunities and public understanding of the needs of persons with mental retardation.

EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER— REGION 20 (COMMUNITY BASED TRAINING PROJECT)

1314 Hines

San Antonio, TX 78208 PHONE: (512) 271-7611 Contact: Dennis Dildy Local Associate Member

This program is primarily a work training project and an independent living project with four semi-supervised apartments for six to nine deaf/blind and/or developmentally disabled students between the ages of 14 and 21 years.

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER, PARALYZED VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC. 1170 Westmoreland, Suite 220 El Paso, TX 79925 PHONE: (915) 541-7527 or (915) 541-7565 Contact: Ron Tribble

Local Member

The organization provides services to paralyzed veterans through advocacy, legislation and programs.

#### Join CTD

The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities is a coalition of organizations and individuals committed to cross-disability communication, cooperation, and coordination. The Coalition promotes the social, education, physical, and mental well-being of disabled Texans. The Coalition of Texans with Disabilities brings together people and organizations with similar goals in a united effort to represent all disabled Texans to government, the private sector, and the general public. Membership in the Coalition enables organizations and individuals to enhance their effectiveness in improving the quality of life for Texans with disabilities.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL) Name (STREET ADDRESS OR POST OFFICE BOX) Address ZIP CODE STATE CITY Name of contact person for organization Membership category applied for Mail application and dues to: CTD P.O. Box 4709 Individual Associate Austin, Texas 78765 State Loca Name of Organization Estimated Membership Estimated percentage of members with disabilities Percentage of Governing Board Does the organization have non-profit status? Is the organization a state organization? If yes, does the organization have chapters in at least two cities? Is the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a state organization? If yes, what organization? If the organization a regional and/or local chapter of a national organization? If yes, what organization? Organizational Purpose (Goals, Objectives, Population Served) FOUR CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE State Organization Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; have chapters in at least two cities; are not regional chapters of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$50.00 annually

Local Organizational Members are non-profit organizations composed primarily of persons with disabilities and their adherents; are not a chapter of a state organization having membership in CTD. Dues are \$25.00 annually.

Associate Members are organizations wishing to support the work of CTD but which do not meet the above qualifications for state or local organizations. Dues are \$25.00 annually.

7



by Steve Currier

For some time now, one of the major concerns that employers, professionals in the field, as well as disabled persons have expressed is the fear being trapped in a burning multi-story building. For many employers, locating their businesses in high rise buildings may have acted as a disincentive for them to consider hiring mobility impaired persons that might have to be placed on upper levels.

In addition, fire safety codes have become a major obstacle for mobility impaired persons to overcome in

convincing employers that safe evacuation would be possible in an emergency from above ground level floors. Officials still point out that since elevators automatically stop operating in a fire, the only safe route of egress for all building occupants are the stairs. There is still a concern that even if there were a plan for stairway evacuation of a mobility impaired person, the effort would be time consuming and might jeopardize the escape of many others.

In response to this concern, the Egen Polymatic Corporation has unveiled a chair that glides down stars, with no special attachments. The \$649 unit was recently demonstrated in a New York City high-rise building. If the unit is guided by a co-worker or attendant, it can be a very effective tool for rapid evacuation of mobility impaired persons from upper floors of a building. For more information about this device, contact: Egen Polymatic Corporation at (212) 734-6222.

## CTD Board

#### **OFFICERS**

Marshall Mitchell, Pres. 4610 South Crockett Amarillo, Texas 79110 (806) 358-4107 (home) (806) 376-5111

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Jim Bruce, Treasurer 10318 Country Club Dr. Dallas, Texas 75218 (214) 343-0573

Larry Johnson, Past Pres. 777 Isom Road #6H San Antonio, Texas 78216 (512) 344-0925 (home) (512) 822-2006

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# Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

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\*TO THE ABSENTEE VOTING CLERK: THIS "INFORMAL APPLICATION" IS LEGAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR BALLOT BY MAIL AS STATED IN ARTICLE 5,05 SUBDIVISION 2a: "AN APPLICANT IS NOT REQUIRED TO USE THE OFFICIAL APPLICATION FORM TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTTEE BALLOT (BY MAIL)".

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ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE "I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IN INFORMATION IN AN APPLICATION IN	FORMATION GIVEN IN THIS APPL	ICATION IS TRUE, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GIVING OF FALSE
IF THE APPLICANT IS UNABLE T	O SIGN HIS/HER NAME, A WITN	ESS MUST FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING:
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	ADDRESS OF WITNESS:_	
	CITY:	TX
	SIGNATURE OF WITNESS	

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LAST NAME (NOT HUSBAND'S)  (APELLIDO)	MIDDLE NAME (SEGUNDO NOMBRE)	MAIDEN NAME (APELLIDO DE SOLTERA)	
		E THE COURT OF NATURALIZATION OR ITS LOCATION: CORTE DE NATURALIZACION O SU LOCALIDAD)	
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*SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER   TELEPHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL)	CURRENT PRECINCT NUMBER OR NAME, IF KNOWN: (OPTIONAL) INUMERO DE PRECINTO O EL NOMBRE DEL SITIOJ (OPCIONAL)		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (OR AGENT)  (FIRMA DE SOLICITANTE O AGENTE)  FOR WITNESS:	husband, wife, father, mother, son, or daughter.  La solicitual puede efectuare con la synde de un vorante calificado en el condado que sea uno de los siguientes: esposo, esposa, padre, madre, hijo, o hija: J  I AM THE.  OF THE APPLICANT.		
FOR WITNESS:  (PARA TESTIGC):  If the applicant is unable to sign his name, he shall make his mark in the presence of a witness. If the applicant is unable to make his mark in the presencia de un testigo. Si el solicitant no puede firmer su nombre, debe haver su marcu en la presencia de un testigo. Si el solicitant no puede haver si Signature and address of witness:  (Firmar direction del testigo):  *The disclosure of social security number is voluntary. It is solicited by authority of Article 5.13b, V.T.E.C. and will be used on the revelocity due su number of security of the secure social est ionterior voluntario. Su number or solicitatio por varioridad de Articulo 5.13	merca, el testigo debe declarar la razón sobre la solici y to maintain the accuracy of the registration records.	cation. (ud.)	

VOTED DECICEDATION ADDITION