

protections guaranteed by the ADA. It's called Access America, www.disAbility.gov.

And finally, I ask Congress again to act on important pending legislation to improve the lives of people with disabilities. We must be vigilant in defending the rights we have already secured, and our budget increases funds for ADA enforcement.

I also asked Congress to pass our \$1,000 tax credit to help workers with disabilities pay for support services and technologies needed to stay on the job, and our \$3,000 tax credit for Americans of all ages with long-term care needs. I also say the disability community in America needs a strong hate crimes bill that protects people with disabilities and a real Patients' Bill of Rights that covers Americans, all of them, in all health plans.

More than 60 years ago, President Roosevelt marked the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. He said it was an occasion for recalling great progress and a time for remembering that in the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved. Because of all you have done, America has achieved greater freedom. We have liberated not only Americans with disabilities, but as Martin Luther King said of the civil rights movement so long ago, when people find their own freedom, those who have denied it to them for too long are, themselves, made more free. We are all a freer, better country because of the ADA and what you have done.

When you look at the young people on this stage, you know that you have given them a better today. When we leave here, we should leave committed to giving them a much better tomorrow.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:55 a.m. at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. In his remarks, he referred to Justin Dart, Jr., chairman and founder, Justice For All; former Representative Steve Bartlett; former Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum; Rebecca Ogle, Executive Director, Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities; Marco Bristo, chair, National Council on Disability; and Tony Coelho, Chairman, President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the First Lady.

Executive Order 13163—Increasing the Opportunity for Individuals With Disabilities To Be Employed in the Federal Government

July 26, 2000

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to promote an increase in the opportunities for individuals with disabilities to be employed at all levels and occupations of the Federal Government, and to support the goals articulated in section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 791), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. *Increasing the Federal Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities.* (a) Recent evidence demonstrates that, throughout the United States, qualified persons with disabilities have been refused employment despite their availability and qualifications, and many qualified persons with disabilities are never made aware of available employment opportunities. Evidence also suggests that increased efforts at outreach, and increased understanding of the reasonable accommodations available for persons with disabilities, will permit persons with disabilities to compete for employment on a more level playing field.

(b) Based on current hiring patterns and anticipated increases from expanded outreach efforts and appropriate accommodations, the Federal Government, over the next 5 years, will be able to hire 100,000 qualified individuals with disabilities. In furtherance of such efforts, Federal agencies shall:

- (1) Use available hiring authorities, consistent with statutes, regulations, and prior Executive orders and Presidential Memoranda;
- (2) Expand their outreach efforts, using both traditional and nontraditional methods; and
- (3) Increase their efforts to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

(c) As a model employer, the Federal Government will take the lead in educating the public about employment opportunities available for individuals with disabilities.

(d) This order does not require agencies to create new positions or to change existing qualification standards for any position.

Sec. 2. Implementation. Each Federal agency shall prepare a plan to increase the opportunities for individuals with disabilities to be employed in the agency. Each agency shall submit that plan to the Office of Personnel Management within 60 days from the date of this order.

Sec. 3. Authority to Develop Guidance. The Office of Personnel Management shall develop guidance on the provisions of this order to increase the opportunities for individuals with disabilities employed in the Federal Government.

Sec. 4. Judicial Review. This order is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, its employees, or any person.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 26, 2000.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,
8:45 a.m., July 27, 2000]

NOTE: This Executive order was published in the
Federal Register on July 28.

**Executive Order 13164—Requiring
Federal Agencies To Establish
Procedures To Facilitate the
Provision of Reasonable
Accommodation**

July 26, 2000

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 *et seq.*), as amended, and in order to promote a model Federal workplace that provides reasonable accommodation for (1) individuals with disabilities in the application process for Federal employment; (2) Federal employees with disabilities to perform the essential functions of a position; and (3) Federal employees with disabilities to enjoy benefits and

privileges of employment equal to those enjoyed by employees without disabilities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Establishment of Effective Written Procedures to Facilitate the Provision of Reasonable Accommodation. (a) Each Federal agency shall establish effective written procedures for processing requests for reasonable accommodation by employees and applicants with disabilities. The written procedures may allow different components of an agency to tailor their procedures as necessary to ensure the expeditious processing of requests.

(b) As set forth in *Re-charting the Course: The First Report of the Presidential Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities* (1998), effective written procedures for processing requests for reasonable accommodation should include the following:

- (1) Explain that an employee or job applicant may initiate a request for reasonable accommodation orally or in writing. If the agency requires an applicant or employee to complete a reasonable accommodation request form for recordkeeping purposes, the form must be provided as an attachment to the agency's written procedures;
- (2) Explain how the agency will process a request for reasonable accommodation, and from whom the individual will receive a final decision;
- (3) Designate a time period during which reasonable accommodation requests will be granted or denied, absent extenuating circumstances. Time limits for decision making should be as short as reasonably possible;
- (4) Explain the responsibility of the employee or applicant to provide appropriate medical information related to the functional impairment at issue and the requested accommodation where the disability and/or need for accommodation is not obvious;
- (5) Explain the agency's right to request relevant supplemental medical information if the information submitted does not clearly explain the nature of the disability, or the need for the reasonable accommodation, or does not otherwise clarify how the requested accommodation will assist the employee to perform the essential