

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 3, 2026

The Honorable General Todd Blanche
Acting Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Acting Attorney General Blanche and Secretary Kennedy:

We write to express opposition regarding the Department of Justice's Interim Final Rule (IFR) and the Department of Health and Human Services' IFR that revises the recently finalized regulations implementing Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for websites and mobile applications.

The Departments' 2024 final rules represent a long-overdue and critically important step toward ensuring that people with disabilities have equal access to state and local government services in the digital age. The rules established clear, enforceable requirements—aligned with WCAG 2.1 Level AA—that public entities must meet to ensure accessibility of websites and mobile applications. These standards are essential to ensuring access to core civic functions, including voting, education, healthcare, public safety, and benefits administration.

These rules provided standards to what is already a requirement under law. To see them delayed is a dismissal of the rights and needs of people with disabilities. Delaying the implementation of these rules means that students of all ages will continue to face systemic barriers to a quality education. People with disabilities will also continue to face challenges accessing civic information critical to making informed decisions in state and local elections.¹ Delaying these rules also mean healthcare providers will continue to publish inaccessible forms and resources impacting healthcare services for patients with disabilities.² These and other injustices people with disabilities experience in our digital world must end.

The compliance deadlines set forth in the 2024 final rules already reflect a balanced approach that provides time for implementation while recognizing the urgency of addressing longstanding

¹ American Association of People with Disabilities. (2026, April 21). *Leading disability organizations: Delaying digital accessibility is unacceptable*. <https://www.aapd.com/leading-disability-organizations-oppose-extending-title-ii-deadline/>

² Disability Scoop. (2026, May 11). *Feds to reconsider rule barring disability discrimination in healthcare*. <https://www.disabilityscoop.com/2026/05/11/feds-to-reconsider-rule-barring-disability-discrimination-in-healthcare/31995/>

digital accessibility barriers. Delaying these requirements perpetuates inequities in access to essential government services.

We are deeply opposed to IFRs—rather than a transparent notice-and-comment rulemaking—delaying compliance without adequate public input. The use of an IFR in this context circumvented the meaningful stakeholder engagement that is foundational to effective rulemaking. Should the Departments seek additional changes to the website and mobile applications final rules, we urge full transparency and public participation. At a time when government services are increasingly delivered online, weakening this rule would risk excluding millions of Americans with disabilities from full participation in civic life.

Importantly, the IFRs do not alter the underlying accessibility requirements established in the Departments' 2024 final rules. Public entities remain obligated to ensure that their web content and mobile applications are accessible under the ADA. The Department of Justice itself has reaffirmed that existing ADA obligations requiring effective communication and equal access continue to apply during the extension period of the compliance deadlines.

We appreciate your attention to this critical matter and stand ready to work with the Departments to ensure that implementation of the final rules fulfills its intended purpose: equal access for all.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



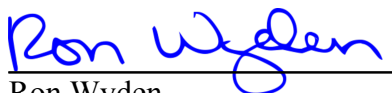
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



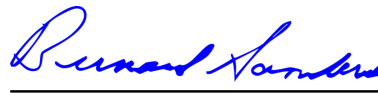
Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senator



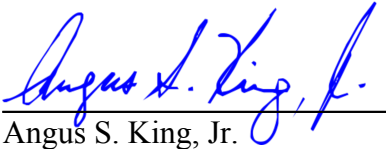
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



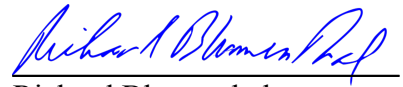
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



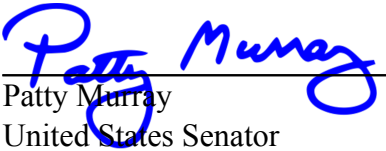
Bernard Sanders
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Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Patty Murray
United States Senator