

H.R. 620 weakens the nearly 30 year old Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that ensures people with disabilities are treated the same as those without disabilities. Because the ADA does not include public enforcement of its provisions, like a public inspector, people with disabilities must enforce their rights to access when they are denied access to a building. The proposed "ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017" (H.R. 620) changes the ADA and requires notice and a 6 month wait before even simple access barriers must be fixed. There are better solutions, such as state and local governments requiring training of building inspectors to identify access problems so they can be fixed, or stronger lease provisions so landlords inspect their properties and correct access problems before leasing them.

Congress should not pass a bill that erodes the rights of people with disabilities. As a society, we can and must do better to ensure that all individuals can enjoy access to public places like restaurants, stores and other businesses. If you have information or a personal story about how the "ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017" (H.R. 620) will affect you or your family, please share your story with your Senators and Congressional Representatives. To find your Senator's or Congressional Representative's contact information, go here and insert your zip code:

<https://whoismyrepresentative.com/>