

# PIRS Hot Sheet

## Advocacy & Services for People with Disabilities

### U.S. International Council on Disabilities Urges Senate to Approve Ratification for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD) applauded the unified statement of bipartisan support for United States ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) that has been issued by seven senators.

Last week, the Administration submitted the CRPD to the U.S. Senate for its advice and consent for ratification. In their statement, Senators McCain (R-AZ), Durbin (D-IL), Moran (R-KS), Harkin (D-IA), Barrasso (R-WY), Coons (D-DE), and Udall (D-NM) affirm that the treaty upholds the American values of non-discrimination and equal access for persons with disabilities in all areas of life. The seven senators joined together in promoting the ratification of the Convention, which will help protect Americans with disabilities that work and travel abroad from discrimination including disabled American veterans. It will help ensure that all Americans enjoy the same rights outside the U.S. as they enjoy at home.

"The ADA was the first major piece of domestic legislation in the world to address the discrimination, legal challenges, and physical and systemic barriers faced by individuals with disabilities. The CRPD seeks to achieve the same goals worldwide and promote inclusion in all aspects of society," said Marca Bristo, USICD Executive Director.

A United States delegation under the Bush Administration participated in negotiating and drafting of the CRPD, and the U.S. approved the treaty's adoption in 2006. Sending the CRPD to the Senate follows the U.S. signing of the treaty in July 2009, and is the next step towards joining the 112 countries that have ratified this treaty already.

The CRPD is consistent not only with the ADA, but also with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and other U.S. disability laws. It reflects core American values such as the dignity of the individual, access to justice, respect for the home and family, and access to education. The CRPD does not establish new human rights. Rather, it affirms the strong history of disability rights laws in the U.S. that promote, protect and ensure the rights of persons with disabilities.

Over 150 national and local disability organizations support the ratification of the CRPD. Notably, 21 leading Veterans service organizations have joined the disability community in supporting the treaty, including Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wounded Warrior Project, the American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans.

Source: USICD, [www.usicd.org](http://www.usicd.org)

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has launched the online *Accessibility Clearinghouse*, comprising devices and applications to make communications easier for working-age individuals with disabilities. <http://apps.fcc.gov/accessibilityclearinghouse/disabilities.html?pgID=1>

## **PIRS Calendar**

Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request to facilitate access to PIRS facilities and services.

In order to maintain a comfortable environment for everyone, we respectfully request that **no perfumes or other scented products** are worn when attending activities at PIRS. Thank you.

### **Deaf Awareness and Conversational American Sign Language:**

⇒ **Beginning Class:** Learn basic vocabulary. For schedule or other information, call 530-885-6100.

### **Disability Peer Support Groups:**

⇒ **Depression Support Group** – Friday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. at PIRS. This group is facilitated by Senior Peer Counseling Program of PCHHS, and it is open to all adults regardless of age.

⇒ **Women’s Mental Health Disabilities Support Group** – Monday 5:00 –7:00 pm. Call Leslie Brewer, ext. 13.

⇒ **Men’s Disability Support Group** – Tuesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Call Jeff Cowen, ext 15, before attending.

⇒ **Women’s Disability Support Group** – Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Open drop-in group. Call Facilitator Barbara Finn, ext. 26, for more information.

⇒ **Individual Peer Support – New Program:** If you live between Applegate and Gold Run and would like to talk individually with a volunteer Peer Support Specialist, call Leslie, x13.

### **Auburn People First: self-advocacy for people with developmental disabilities**

⇒ Call the Supported Life Institute, Self-Advocacy Coordination Project at 916-567-1974 for more information.

### **FREE Help with your healthcare services problems:**

**HICAP** – Health Insurance Counseling for seniors and people with disabilities. Call Seniors First/SeniorLink at 1-800-878-9222 to make an appointment.

**Health Rights Hotline**, serving Placer, El Dorado, Yolo, & Sacramento Counties, regardless where you receive your health coverage. Tollfree (888) 354-4474 or TTY (916) 551-2180. In Sacramento, call (916) 551-2100. [www.hrh.org](http://www.hrh.org).

**HMO Help Center:** State Dept. of Managed Health Care, free independent medical review (IMR) for denial of services. Assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call (888) 466-2219 or (877) 688-9891 (TTY). [www.healthhelp.ca.gov](http://www.healthhelp.ca.gov).

**DRA’s Health Access Project:** free publications about the health care and insurance rights and concerns of people with disabilities and serious health conditions. <http://dralegal.org/>, and click on “Projects”.

**Mental Health America**  
**In Crisis? 1-800-273-TALK**  
**Pensar en Suicida?**  
**1-800-SUICIDA (784-2432)**  
**(Ellos son Latinos y hablan Espanol)**

**California AgrAbility Project** serves agricultural workers with disabilities and their families. Call (530) 752-1613 voice; Toll free: 1-800-477-6129; fax (530) 752-2640.  
<http://calagrability.ucdavis.edu>

## Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission Wants Art and Writing Submissions

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) currently is accepting artwork and writing produced by consumers in recovery, family members, and the mental health stakeholders community at large to be featured in their special edition newsletter - *MHSOAC Expressions*, their newsletter - *MHSOAC Update*, and on their website at [www.mhsoac.ca.gov](http://www.mhsoac.ca.gov).

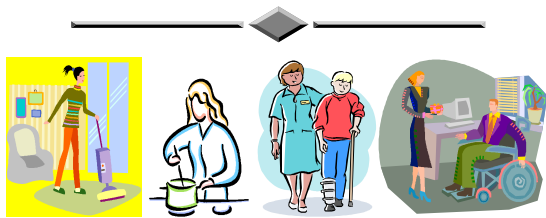
*MHSOAC Expressions* exclusively features artwork and writings from the mental health community. Submit your artwork, short stories, and poems to the MHSOAC to be considered for publication. All themes and topics are encouraged, but especially those of wellness, recovery, and personal experiences or triumphs as related to mental health.

For more information:

[www.mhsoac.ca.gov/Announcements/docs/Invitation\\_Art\\_Writing\\_2012.pdf](http://www.mhsoac.ca.gov/Announcements/docs/Invitation_Art_Writing_2012.pdf)

Or email Jacie Scott at:

[Jacie.Scott@mhsoac.ca.gov](mailto:Jacie.Scott@mhsoac.ca.gov).



Do you need to hire an in-home personal assistant or care provider?

Are you a professional care provider?

Apply to join PIRS Personal Assistants Registry/Referral Service. (No fee)

To hire a provider, or to join our Provider Registry, call Tim Cooper at PIRS - 530-885-6100, x15.

## Accessible Summer Recreation: "Hot Fun in the Summertime!"

**Hope Valley:** accessible fishing on Carson River in Alpine County. Parking lot is located just west of the intersection of Hwys 88 and 89, with an accessible toilet and Trail access.

**Independence Trail:** wheelchair-accessible; trailhead located between Nevada City and North San Juan on Hwy 49 in Nevada County.

### National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Series:

Lifetime Passes are free for individuals with disabilities and \$10 for seniors age 62+. Active military and dependents with proper ID receive free annual passes. See details at: [www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm](http://www.nps.gov/findapark/passes.htm)

**Disability Sports USA FarWest:** array of summer activities from Tahoe to Sacramento for people with disabilities.

Phone: 530-581-4161

Fax: 530-581-3127

Email: [info@disabledsports.net](mailto:info@disabledsports.net)

Web Site: [www.dsusafw.org](http://www.dsusafw.org)



Do you need some minor modifications to make your home safer and more accessible?

Call Don Wixon, Coordinator of PIRS Minor Home Modification Program. 530-885-6100, ext 34

ADA Checklist for Readily Achievable Barrier Removal

[www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html](http://www.adachecklist.org/checklist.html)

## ADA CORNER

On May 17, United States Magistrate Judge Janice M. Stewart issued a ruling in the case of *Lane v. Kitzhaber*. This case alleges that Oregon is violating the ADA by not providing employment services to individuals with disabilities in the most integrated settings appropriate.

Oregon had filed a Motion to Dismiss the case, arguing that employment claims cannot be made under Title II of the ADA, that the "integration mandate" of the ADA (Olmstead) does not apply to employment services, and that the case improperly asks the state to provide employment to the plaintiffs and to provide a certain standard of care in the state's provision of employment services. In her ruling, Judge Stewart found that "...this case does not involve 'employment,' but instead involves the state's provision (or failure to provide) 'integrated employment services, including supported employment programs.'" The State's Motion to Dismiss on this basis was denied. The integration mandate of Olmstead applies to employment services. ADA Title II covers government entities.

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### Free Technical Assistance:

• Pacific Disability and Business Technical Advisory Center (DBTAC) – Hotline provides free detailed explanations on ADA questions and Guidelines. 1-800-949-4232.

[www.adapacific.org](http://www.adapacific.org).

• Dept of Justice ADA webpage:

[www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm)

• Equal Opportunity Employment Commission – non-discrimination in employment: [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov).

• Job Accommodation Network (JAN): lists examples of accommodations that may be appropriate for various types of disabling conditions. [www.jan.wvu.edu](http://www.jan.wvu.edu)

• [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) – US Access Board publishes access guidelines based on research about best practices.

• [www.DisabilityInfo.gov](http://www.DisabilityInfo.gov) is a cross-government portal on disability, and is easily accessible.

• [www.ncaonline.org](http://www.ncaonline.org) - National Center on Accessibility promotes access to recreational facilities, focusing on universal access and practical solutions by linking designers with users.

• [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov) – a one-stop source to find any federal agency and other information.

• Federal Transit Administration – ADA Assistance line: 1-888-446-4511 or [www.fta.dot.gov/transit\\_data\\_info/ada/](http://www.fta.dot.gov/transit_data_info/ada/)

• Information on the U.S. Dept of Education enforcement of education rights (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA). [www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/index.html)

• Discrimination in air transportation and related services. Hotline at 1-800-778-4838 (voice) or 1-800-455-9880 (TTY) to obtain assistance. Complaints must be submitted in writing. <http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/>



### **Advocate for Your Rights!**

Never take your independence for granted. Never ignore discrimination. Speak out and defend your rights to access housing, education, employment, transportation, health care, telecommunications, recreation, and all the other benefits our society enjoys. Get involved! Stay informed! Get PIRS advocacy bulletins by mail or email:

Email: <[jcowen@pirs.org](mailto:jcowen@pirs.org)> and put "Subscribe Advocacy List" in the subject line;

Call – Jeff - 530-885-6100, ext.15; or

Write: Advocate, PIRS, 11768 Atwood Rd. Ste. 29, Auburn, CA 95603.

## To Contact Your Legislators online:

President: [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

Governor: [www.governor.ca.gov](http://www.governor.ca.gov)

US Senators: [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov), then choose "Senate Directory" at top.

US Representatives: [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov), then choose "House Directory" at top.

State Senate: [www.senate.ca.gov](http://www.senate.ca.gov)

State Assembly: [www.assembly.ca.gov](http://www.assembly.ca.gov)

Placer County: [www.placer.ca.gov](http://www.placer.ca.gov)

El Dorado County: [co.el-dorado.ca.us](http://co.el-dorado.ca.us)

Alpine County: [www.alpinecountyca.gov](http://www.alpinecountyca.gov)



**PIRS Board of Directors is seeking new members. In particular, if you are of Latino, Asian, or African-American descent and have a disability, or have legal or accounting expertise, please consider joining our Board.**

Please call for an application:  
530-885-6100, in Auburn  
1-800-833-3453 outside of Auburn area  
530-885-0326 TDD  
530-885-3032 Fax

### **PIRS Board of Directors**

Dawn Davidson, President  
Robert Hancock, Vice President  
Paul Opper, Treasurer  
Dan Roye, Secretary  
Michael Cummings, Director  
Terry Scott, Director  
Linda Wisdom, Director

### **PIRS Board Meeting:**

Third Wednesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at PIRS.

## **Disability Rights Organizations:**

[www.ADAWatch.org](http://www.ADAWatch.org): Advancing the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

**National Council on Independent Living:**  
[www.NCIL.org](http://www.NCIL.org)

**Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living:** [www.april-rural.org](http://www.april-rural.org)

**CA Foundation for Independent Living Centers:** [www.cfilc.org](http://www.cfilc.org)

**Mental Health:** [www.Bazelon.org](http://www.Bazelon.org)

**Advocacy for persons with developmental disabilities:** [The ARC.org](http://TheARC.org)

**Disability Rights California:** [www.drc.org](http://www.drc.org)

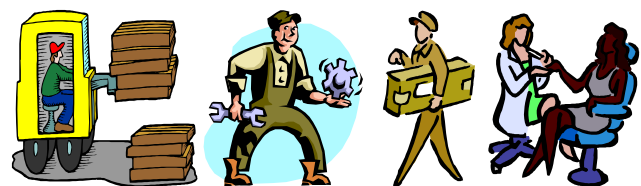
**Disability Rights Education Defense Fund:**  
[www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)

**Not Dead Yet:** opposing physician-assisted suicide. [www.ndy.org](http://www.ndy.org)

**Disability Rights Advocates:** [dralegal.org](http://dralegal.org)

**American Association of Persons with Disabilities:** [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org)

**California Disability Community Action Network (CDCAN):** Advocacy Without Borders: [www.cdcan.us](http://www.cdcan.us)



**[www.disabilitybenefits101.org](http://www.disabilitybenefits101.org)**

Information on employment, health coverage and other benefits, and how it all relates to working. There's a unique "calculator" that will help you figure it out. You can work!

**Placer Independent Resource Services**  
11768 Atwood Rd., Ste. 29  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Non Profit Organization**  
**US Postage PAID**  
**Auburn, CA**  
**Permit #130**

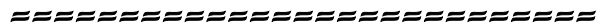
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PIRS Hotsheet is available online at  
[www.pirs.org](http://www.pirs.org)  
For alternative formats, call us at:  
530-885-6100 (v); 530-885-0326 (tty)



**Happy Father's Day**  
**To all Dad's and those just like a Dad!**

*Please Include PIRS  
in Your Will.*



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**We need your support. Please make a donation to PIRS today. Thank you!**

PIRS is a Certified Agency of United Way California Capital Region: **Agency # 5751**

