

Technology and Disability Policy Highlights

March 2017

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# Overview

In March, legislative activities saw the introduction of two bills *ADA Lawsuit Clarification Act of 2017* [**H.R. 1493**] in California and the *ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017* [**H.R.620**] in Texas. These bills propose that the complainant engages in negotiation and remediation prior to filing a private civil suit. The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) and Coalition Partners oppose H.R. 620, stating that it “would create significant obstacles for people with disabilities to enforce their rights under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to access public accommodations, and would impede their ability to engage in daily activities and participate in the mainstream of society. Rather, the burden of protecting the right to access a public place is shifted to the person with the disability, who first has to be denied access...”

In the regulatory arena, Honda received an extension from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Media Bureau to comply and implement accessible in-vehicle rear entertainment systems. This is one of many issues the FCC is addressing to move the U.S. forward with innovation and inclusive technology. In FCC Chairman, Ajit Pai’s address at Carnegie Mellon, *Bringing the Benefits of the Digital Age to All Americans***,** Chairman Pai outlined his priorities and specific proposals that the FCC will pursue are aimed at closing the digital divide and bringing access to Internet-based technologies to all Americans.

In Wireless RERC news, March was a busy month for presenting and policy input. Presentations from the 2017 CSUN AT Conference have been published online: [[PDF] Smartphone Use and Activities by People with Disabilities: 2015-2016 Survey;](http://www.wirelessrerc.org/smartphone-use-and-activities-people-user-survey-2016) [[PDF] Wireless RERC Policy Retrospective: Strategies to Effect Policy Change](http://www.wirelessrerc.org/wireless-rerc-policy-retrospective-strategies-effect-change). In continued efforts to inform policy, the Wireless RERC submitted reply comments to the FCC *In the Matter of the Transition from TTY to Real-Time Text* [RTT] *Technology* [**CG Docket No. 16-145**]. Comments supported transitioning from TTY to RTT technology and concurred with other stakeholder recommendations that the manner and speed in which it is done take into account those most at risk of losing all text communications access if TTY becomes unavailable. Also submitted were comments in response to the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research’s (NIDILRR) request for input concerning their Draft Long Range Plan, 2018-2023. Additionally, comments were submitted to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s *Request for Comments on the Benefits, Challenges, and Potential Roles for the Government in Fostering the Advancement of the Internet of Things* [IOT], strongly recommending that NTIA specifically articulate policy recommendations that support early stage inclusion of people with disabilities to further accessibility and usability of IoT technology and services before development and deployment of the same.

This issue also includes news about inclusive computing, accessible online educational materials, awards for digital inclusion and broadband adoption, and more.

**Click the headings below to link directly to a particular section.**

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# Legislative Activities

**Could the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities Be Eroded?**

March 10, 2017 – Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) legislation has been proposed in the California House of Representatives. *ADA Lawsuit Clarification Act of 2017* [**H.R. 1493**] was introduced by, Representative Jeff Denham [R-CA-10]. The proposed bill would require a person with a disability (or the person(s) filing a civil rights lawsuit regarding alleged ADA violations) to first enter into negotiations with the business who does not meet ADA guidelines prior to filing a private civil lawsuit.  The requirements in the proposed bill are as follows:

“(B) STRUCTURAL BARRIERS TO ENTRY INTO EXISTING PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.—A civil action for discrimination…to entry into an existing public accommodation may not be commenced by a person aggrieved by such discrimination unless” 1) the owner is notified in writing of the specific barrier, 2) noticed has to be received by the business owner, 3) within 60 days the owner has to provide such person with a description of improvements to be made, and 4) the business owner has 120 days afterwards to remove the barrier before the person who has been harmed can file a civil rights complaint.

A similar bill was introduced in the House of Representatives in Texas by Representative Ted Poe [R-TX-2]. The *ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017* [**H.R.620**] proposes similar negotiation with the added stipulation that the Department of Justice, property owners and people with disabilities “develop a program to educate State and local governments and property owners…on access to public accommodations for persons with a disability.” However, many states currently have ADA offices, the DoJ has a website devoted to [Information and Technical Assistance on the ADA](https://www.ada.gov/ta-pubs-pg2.htm), and there are more experts and literature addressing inclusive/universal design than ever before. The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) and Coalition Partners oppose H.R. 620, stating that it “would create significant obstacles for people with disabilities to enforce their rights under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to access public accommodations, and would impede their ability to engage in daily activities and participate in the mainstream of society. Rather, the burden of protecting the right to access a public place is shifted to the person with the disability, who first has to be denied access...” These two pieces of legislation can be pivotal bills to watch as they could change how the ADA works to prevent discrimination of people with disabilities. As with all proposed legislation, questions should be asked and answered regarding the impact the changes would have on the intent of federal legislation and individuals protected by the law. For example, do the proposed changes place novel burdens on people with disabilities compared to other protected classes alleging discrimination? Would the proposed legislation alter the spirit of the ADA of 1990 (as amended) and serve to protect entities instead of individuals? Complying with the ADA and the ADA Amendments Act (2008) are crucial to perpetuating inclusive business practices and the proactive strategy to prevent ADA litigation.

#### Additional Information:

[Letter of Opposition to H.R. 620 - Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) and Coalition Partners](http://www.advocacymonitor.com/add-your-organization-as-a-signatory-to-ccds-letter-of-opposition-to-the-ada-education-and-reform-act-of-2017/)

<http://www.advocacymonitor.com/add-your-organization-as-a-signatory-to-ccds-letter-of-opposition-to-the-ada-education-and-reform-act-of-2017/>

[*ADA Lawsuit Clarification Act of 2017* [**H.R. 1493**]](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1493)

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1493>

[*ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017* [**H.R. 620**]](https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/620/text)

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/620/text>

# Regulatory Activities

**FCC Grants Honda Extension to Comply with Video Accessibility Rules**

March 16, 2017 –The FCC’s Media Bureau has granted the Honda Motor Company, Ltd. an extension to comply with accessibility guidelines of the *Twenty-First Century Video and Communications Accessibility Act of 2010* (CVAA). Honda requested a 20-month waiver to comply with video accessibility guidelines for its in-vehicle rear entertainment systems. Honda argued that the company would have to halt vehicle production, resulting in loss of revenue and layoffs.  The Order granting the extension requires Honda to provide a six month and one-year status update.  Also, Honda agreed to meet compliance requirements for vehicles manufactured after August 20, 2018.

#### Additional Information:

[Honda Accessible User Interfaces Waiver Order](https://www.fcc.gov/document/honda-accessible-user-interfaces-waiver-order)

[<https://www.fcc.gov/document/honda-accessible-user-interfaces-waiver-order>]

[Honda Waiver Request](https://www.fcc.gov/document/media-bureau-seeks-comment-honda-user-interfaces-waiver-request)

[<https://www.fcc.gov/document/media-bureau-seeks-comment-honda-user-interfaces-waiver-request>]

**Bringing the Benefits of the Digital Age to All Americans**

March 15, 2017 – Chairman Ajit Pai visited Carnegie Mellon University’s Software Engineering Institute in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he gave his first major speech as Chairman of the FCC. His address covered many topics including jobs, technology, infrastructure, transition, broadband, 5G, and a positive outlook for the future. He explained why “Change may be today’s only constant,” and our economy depends on adaptation and advancement.  His address also covered policy changes aimed at closing the digital divide and bringing access to internet based technologies to all Americans.  Chairman Pai outlined his guiding principles for the FCC and then provided insight into specific proposals the Commission will pursue.  He stated, “I believe that every American who wants to participate in our digital economy should be able to. Access to digital opportunity shouldn’t depend on who you are or where you’re from…The FCC’s job is to be your partner in that journey. By helping to close the digital divide and promoting innovation, we can empower more Americans to change their own lives. That’s the mission ahead of us. Let’s get to work!”

#### Additional Information:

[Remarks of Chairman Pai – Bringing the Benefits of the Digital Age to All Americans](http://www.wirelessrerc.org/sites/default/files/remarks_of_chairman_pai_-_bringing_the_benefits_of_the_digital_age_to_all_americans.pdf)

[<http://www.wirelessrerc.org/sites/default/files/remarks_of_chairman_pai_-_bringing_the_benefits_of_the_digital_age_to_all_americans.pdf>]

# Judicial Activities

**Supreme Court Raises the Educational Standards Bar for Students with Disabilities**

March 22, 2017 – The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously (8-0) ruled in the *Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District* and set a higher bar for primary school education of students with disabilities around the country. The case questioned educational benefits and guarantees covered by the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA).  IDEA guarantees a "free appropriate public education" to all students with disabilities. The parents of a student in Colorado, who experiences autism and attention deficit disorder, took him out of public school and enrolled him in private school.  His parents were seeking reimbursement for the cost of their son’s education due to the public school’s failure to provide an appropriate education. Endrew F. demonstrated noticeable improvement with his educational pursuits after enrolling in private school. The Supreme Court’s decision impacts interpretation of an “appropriate” education, setting an important precedent for approximately 6.5 million students with disabilities in the United States. “When all is said and done, a student offered an educational program providing ‘merely more than de minimis’ progress from year to year can hardly be said to have been offered an education at all,” wrote Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., who wrote the 16-page opinion. “For children with disabilities, receiving instruction that aims so low would be tantamount to ‘sitting idly. . .awaiting the time when they were old enough to “drop out.” This development exemplifies a sociocultural shift in people with disabilities’ and their families’ perceptions, where rights to parity of access to opportunity are expected not entreated. Individuals with disabilities are gaining more independence and seeking compliance regarding existing laws for more and better inclusion in today’s society.

#### Additional Information:

[Supreme Court Opinion](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/16pdf/15-827_0pm1.pdf)

[<https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/16pdf/15-827_0pm1.pdf>]

[Supreme Court (For PDF and audio file)](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/16pdf/15-827_0pm1.pdf)

[<https://www.supremecourt.gov/>]

# Wireless RERC Updates

**View** **the Wireless RERC Presentations from CSUN 2017**

March 2017 - Wireless RERC researchers, Salimah LaForce and John Morris, presented at the 32nd CSUN Assistive Technologies Conference in San Diego, California. Their PowerPoint presentations are available online.

[[PDF] Smartphone Use and Activities by People with Disabilities: 2015-2016 Survey](http://www.wirelessrerc.org/smartphone-use-and-activities-people-user-survey-2016)

Analysis of the impact of demographic variables and disability type on smartphone use by adults with physical, sensory and cognitive disabilities based on 2015-2016 national survey.

[[PDF] Wireless RERC Policy Retrospective: Strategies to Effect Policy Change](http://www.wirelessrerc.org/wireless-rerc-policy-retrospective-strategies-effect-change)

Through the lens of Wireless RERC policy activities, this presentation outlines how to identify and develop policy assessments or appropriate policy responses to federal rulemakings.

**Wireless RERC on the Record: Transitioning to Real-Time Text Technology**

March 24, 2017 - The Wireless RERC submitted reply comments in response to the FCC’s Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking *In the Matter of the Transition from TTY to Real-Time Text Technology* [**CG Docket No. 16-145**]; *Petition for Rulemaking to Update Commission’s Rules for Access to Support the transition from TTY to Real-Time Text Technology, and Petition for Waiver of Rules Requiring Support of TTY Technology* [**GN Docket No. 15-178**]. While the reply comments supported transitioning from Teletypewriter (TTY) to Real-Time Text (RTT) technology, we concurred with other stakeholder recommendations that the manner and speed in which it is done take into account those most at risk of losing all text communications access if TTY becomes unavailable. While most people with hearing and speech disabilities have a preference for text or video-based communications, there are still some that rely on TTY to place both emergency and non-emergency calls. For no one to be left behind, it is imperative that the transition process includes collecting data on network support, RTT-capable devices on the market, their accessibility levels, and end-user ownership rates. These data would shed light on both industry deployment rates and user adoption rates, users being both consumers and 911 call centers.

#### Additional Information:

[Wireless RERC Reply Comments (3.24.17) - Transitioning to Real-Time Text Technology](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filing/10324203067731)

[[https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filing/10324203067731](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filing/10324203067731%20)]

**Wireless RERC Leans In at the Disability Advisory Committee**

March 21, 2017- Helena Mitchell, Wireless RERC Principal Investigator, and Frank Lucia, Wireless RERC consultant attended the FCC’s Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting. Both retained their committee membership for a second term of the DAC and will continue efforts to produce technically sound, user-focused recommendations concerning accessible communications. Helena and Frank serve on the Emergency Communications Subcommittee, where in concert with the other members they will address how emergency alerts can best meet the needs and expectations of individuals with disabilities through prioritizing emergency information conveyed aurally on the secondary audio stream when more than one source of visual emergency information is presented on-screen, the use of text‐to‐speech, customization of alert signaling, and videos alerts in American Sign Language (ASL). Regarding the latter, the Wireless RERC Inclusive Emergency Lifelines project that will develop and test an ASL Video Platform for mobile alerts should provide useful insights for the DAC to consider in the formulation of their recommendations. Other projects that have consistently provided data to inform federal policy include the Wireless RERC’s Survey of User Needs (SUN), which is slated for a sixth round of data collection this spring and summer. Stay tuned for details.

#### Additional Information:

[Disability Advisory Committee Meeting](https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2017/03/disability-advisory-committee-meeting)

[<https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2017/03/disability-advisory-committee-meeting>]

**Wireless RERC on the Record: NIDILRR’s Research Agenda**

March 20, 2017 – The Wireless RERC submitted comments in response to the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research’s (NIDILRR) request for input concerning their Draft Long Range Plan, 2018-2023. NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that “sponsors grantees to generate new disability and rehabilitation knowledge and promote its use and adoption.” To that end, Wireless RERC comments highlighted the considerable capabilities and functionality offered by smart devices and their ability to address important access and assistive technology needs of people with disabilities as a group. As new iterations of mobile wireless technology devices and networks are deployed, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), researchers, engineers, advocates, and the wireless industry must continue to push for parity of access to these essential technologies, especially through the adoption of inclusive design and development practices. Further, comments suggested that the combination of research, development, *and policy* activities can have an exponential impact on availability, accessibility, and usability of connected technologies. When working to improve access to technologies that are governed by federal agencies, the policy component is crucial to ensuring transfer of research knowledge into industry practice. Technologies to improve the quality of life, community integration, and the independence of individuals with disabilities are not confined to a single domain. Therefore, we strongly supported NIDILRR’s proposed model that accounts for cross-cutting research to provide a more flexible and versatile framework.

#### Additional Information:

[Wireless RERC Comments (3.20.17) – NIDILRR Longa Range Plan](http://www.wirelessrerc.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/wireless_rerc_-_comments_for_nidilrr_long_range_plan_2018_2023_final_submitted.docx)

[<http://www.wirelessrerc.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/wireless_rerc_-_comments_for_nidilrr_long_range_plan_2018_2023_final_submitted.docx>]

**Wireless RERC on the Record: Advancing an Inclusive Internet of Things**

March 13, 2017 - The Wireless RERC, in collaboration with Georgia Tech’s Center for Advanced Communications Policy (CACP), submitted comments to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s *Request for Comments on the Benefits, Challenges, and Potential Roles for the Government in Fostering the Advancement of the Internet of Things* [IOT][**170105023-7023-01**]. CACP and the Wireless RERC strongly recommend that NTIA specifically articulate policy recommendations that support early stage inclusion of people with disabilities to further accessibility and usability of IoT technology and services before development and deployment of the same. Properly designed and developed, the IoT can realize its potential to empower all citizens, including people with disabilities to achieve an improved quality of life and greater social and economic inclusion. Comments also suggested that the federal government focus future policy initiatives as well as technological design on addressing the ability of IoT to apply “on demand” contextually aware information. This display of consumer-digestible information, coupled with the intelligence of devices and applications can meet and anticipate the needs of users with disabilities in ways which increase user independence, opening new opportunities in areas as broad as education, workforce participation, safety, e-health, and social engagement. Further, when implemented in the workplace, IoT technologies can profoundly change the experience of persons with disabilities, providing tools for independence and autonomy while at work. However, implementation is to some extent dependent on availability and suitability of current (or in development) devices and services. It is here that the NTIA could provide formidable leadership in driving the development of the IoT framework by supporting multi-stakeholder engagement, not only formally, regarding policymaking, standards setting and regulation, but also by supporting the formation of public-private partnerships and other multi-stakeholder collaborations to envision innovative types and uses of IoT. To learn more about the benefits and challenges of advancing an inclusive IoT, click to open the comments of the Wireless RERC and CACP.

#### Additional Information:

[Wireless RERC Comments (3.13.17) – Advancing and Inclusive IoT](http://www.wirelessrerc.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/ntia_iot_comments_-_wireless_rerc_cacp_-_final_posted.docx)

<http://www.wirelessrerc.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/ntia_iot_comments_-_wireless_rerc_cacp_-_final_posted.docx>

# Other Items of Interest

**Call for Applications - Charles Benton Junior Scholar Award**

March 2017 - The Charles Benton Junior Scholar Award, recognizing scholarship in digital inclusion and broadband adoption, will be awarded at the 2017 [Research Conference on   
Communications, Information and Internet Policy](http://www.tprcweb.com/) (TPRC). TPRC “promotes interdisciplinary thinking on current and emerging issues in communications…by discussing new research relevant to policy questions in the U.S. and around the world.”  Charles Benton was a “businessman and philanthropist who believed in utilizing communication tools to improve the lives of all.”  The winner will receive a $1,500 cash prize, have the opportunity to work with Benton Foundation’s Executive Editor, Kevin Taglang, on a blog article about the winning submission, and receive acknowledgment during the TPRC Conference luncheon.

#### Additional Information:

[Application Submission Page Charles Benton Junior Scholar Award](http://www.tprcweb.com/charles-benton-young-scholar-award)

[<http://www.tprcweb.com/charles-benton-young-scholar-award>]

**Eatsa Charged with Excluding Customers with Vision Disabilities**

March 23, 2017 - Eatsa, a new chain restaurant in New York, is becoming known as the “restaurant of the future.” However, the restaurant is facing a class action lawsuit because of alleged inaccessibility and noncompliance with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).  The Disability Rights Advocates (DRA), a national nonprofit legal center, on behalf of plaintiffs the American Council of the Blind and class representative, Michael Godino, who is legally blind and a citizen of New York, filed the class action lawsuit.  Mr. Godino and class plaintiffs report they are not able to interact with the high-tech food ordering or pick-up process.  Though Eatsa is using iPads, the complaint states that the buttons that would enable a person with a visual impairment to turn on accessibility features on the device are covered by a frame.  Other limitations to access include kiosks with no tactile features for user control or navigation, Eatsa app is inaccessible to screen readers, the food pickup process has no audible or tactile cues, and the request for human assistance feature at the kiosk is also inaccessible for customers who are blind or have low vision. Michelle Caiola, Director of Litigation at DRA’s New York Office, stated “The Americans with Disabilities Act’s purpose is to ensure equal and independent access for all, including those who are blind, and it has been the law of the land for decades… Sophisticated business titans should be well-versed in laws related to accessibility prior to launching new business ventures…” The American Council of the Blind press release can be read at the following link: <http://acb.org/PR-Eatsa>.

#### Additional Information:

[Press Release: Eatsa, Restaurant of the Future, Excludes Blind Customers](http://acb.org/PR-Eatsa)

[<http://acb.org/PR-Eatsa>]

**Deborah A. Ryan Elected Chair of the United States Access Board**

March 22, 2017 – The United States Access Board (Access Board), by unanimous vote, elected Deborah A. Ryan to be new Chair of the Board.  The Access Board is an independent federal agency who develops accessibility guidelines and standards, provides technical assistance and training on these requirements and on accessible design, and directly represents the public (particularly people with disabilities).  Ryan is from Boston, and prior to starting her consulting company, was the executive director for fifteen years at the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB).  MAAB develops and enforces state requirements for accessible buildings and facilities.

#### Additional Information:

[Access Board News - Deborah A. Ryan Elected Chair of the Access Board](https://www.access-board.gov/news/1896-deborah-a-ryan-elected-chair-of-the-access-board)

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<https://www.access-board.gov/news/1896-deborah-a-ryan-elected-chair-of-the-access-board]>

**Inclusive Computing: Project Torino’s physical programming language**

March 15, 2017 – Thinking outside of the boundaries is paving the way for a more inclusive society for people with severe disabilities.  Project Torino, developed in Microsoft’s Cambridge, UX lab, is one of the latest examples of how people are thinking about and designing for people with disabilities.  Programming languages are very visual.  The process and programs to learn to code typically excludes people with a severe vision impairment. Project Torino is a physical programming language, which means you can physically create code by connecting pods together to build programs.  “We really honestly designed it with them. It was a collaboration…We thought we were going to be doing something for them but we ended up designing with them.” commented Nicolas Villar, a senior researcher at Microsoft. Learning how to code will be a major asset for children with visual impairments. Technology companies need people with digital skills, and research shows that it is difficult for people who are visually impaired to find meaningful employment and career paths. The ability to learn how to code at an early age addresses both issues.  Cecily Morrison, another researcher working on the project, explains that kids are also learning concepts, teamwork, and other valuable skills.  She said, “It is very specifically about building up concepts that will enable them to become computer scientists, programmers, software engineers, computational thinkers...It gives them that computational base to whatever direction they go, and a shared vocabulary about what computing is.”

#### Additional Information:

[With Project Torino, Microsoft creates a physical programming language inclusive of visually impaired children](https://blogs.microsoft.com/next/2017/03/15/project-torino-microsoft-creates-physical-programming-language-inclusive-visually-impaired-children/#sm.0000dopynqsr1ebhrhn11w5chowfw)

[<https://blogs.microsoft.com/next/2017/03/15/project-torino-microsoft-creates-physical-programming-language-inclusive-visually-impaired-children/#sm.0000dopynqsr1ebhrhn11w5chowfw>]

**Removing Instead of Remediating - UC Berkeley Takes Steps to Comply with DoJ Settlement**

March 1, 2017 – The University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) will change how the public and campus community access Course Capture videos (classroom lecture) and podcasts.  Universities and colleges that receive federal aid must comply with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other civil right laws that address parity of access to educational materials for students with disabilities.  In an ongoing effort to comply with a 2013 settlement with the Department of Justice, UC Berkeley will remove legacy video content from Course Capture at webcast.berkeley.edu, YouTube, and UC Berkeley iTunesU. According to UC Berkeley, most of the content being removed is three to ten years old and rarely viewed; thus remediating several years of content to become compliant would be time-consuming. However, with campus-wide changes and new policies, inclusive formats will be implemented in an ongoing manner. The University will continue to provide accommodations for students with disabilities who require alternative formats.  In addition, Berkeley contends that moving the content behind a firewall enhances security and minimizes theft of intellectual property for personal gain.

#### Additional Information:

[Berkeley News - Campus Message on Course Capture video, Podcast Changes](http://news.berkeley.edu/2017/03/01/course-capture/)

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<http://news.berkeley.edu/2017/03/01/course-capture/]>

[Landmark Agreement Big Step Forward for Students with Print Disabilities](http://dralegal.org/press/landmark-agreement-big-step-forward-for-students-with-print-disabilities/)

[<http://dralegal.org/press/landmark-agreement-big-step-forward-for-students-with-print-disabilities/>]

# Upcoming Events

**2017 M-Enabling Summit**

The M-Enabling Summit will convene from June 13 to June 14, 2017, in Washington, D.C. Summit presenters will cover topics such as robotics, wearables, virtual and augmented reality, artificial intelligence, and IoT.

#### Additional Information:

[Conference Registration](http://www.m-enabling.com/conreg.html)

[<http://www.m-enabling.com/conreg.html>]

**Technology and Disability Policy Highlights,** March 2017

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The Technology and Disability Policy Highlights (TDPH) reports on national public policy events and tracks emerging issues of interest to individuals with disabilities, researchers, policymakers, industry, and advocacy professionals. The TDPH is published monthly by the Wireless RERC. The Wireless RERC is a research center that promotes universal access to wireless technologies and explores their innovative applications in addressing the needs of people with disabilities. For more information on the Wireless RERC, please visit our website at [<http://www.wirelessrerc.org>].

For further information on items summarized in this report, or if you have items of interest that you would like included in future editions, please contact this edition’s editors Synge Tyson [synge@cacp.gatech.edu], or Salimah LaForce [salimah@cacp.gatech.edu].

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