## Logo reads Wireless Inclusive RERC

## Technology and Disability Policy Highlights - April 2019

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

[Legislative Activities](#_Legislative_Activities:) [Regulatory Activities](#RegulatoryActivities)  [Wireless RERC Updates](#_Wireless_RERC_Updates) [Other Items of Interest](#_Other_Items_of)

 

April saw the introduction of *The Digital Equity Act of 2019,* seeking to reduce the digital divide and the homework gap. If passed, the Act would create and implement digital equity plans, launch digital inclusion projects, and support evidence-based research. To accomplish this, the Act would fund federal grants, distributed by the National Telecommunication and Information Administration, to support projects that align with this initiative. The annual grants, in the amount of $250 million, would fund physical infrastructure and programs such as digital literacy and skills education to low-income populations. It would also seek to improve the online accessibility of social services for individuals with disabilities.

In the regulatory space, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requested public input on the Wireless Resiliency Cooperative Framework. The WRCF is a voluntary wireless industry commitment intended “to promote resilient communications and situational awareness during disasters.” This Public Notice [**PS Docket No. 11-60]** solicits for further input after the last round of comments that examined post-disaster action reports for the 2017 and 2018 hurricane seasons. The Public Notice states “In addition to stakeholders in the communications and emergency response sectors, we are interested in hearing from industry and government bodies at all levels, and particularly from consumers, including people with disabilities and those who may be disproportionately affected by communications outages, as well as from any other interested stakeholders.”

In Wireless RERC news, we convened a Leadership Luncheon, Contexts of Connectivity, on April 25, 2019. The luncheon topic focused on how smart connected devices enhance access to public and private environments and support the independent living of people with disabilities. In congruence with that topic, the Wireless RERC also hap the opportunity to speak with representatives from AT&T and G3ict about the release of their Smart Cities for All [Inclusive Innovation Playbook](http://bit.ly/2GZ7LCY). The news release about the initiative and its resources are featured in this issue.

This issue also includes news about artificial intelligence, web accessibility, regulations for robots, the electronic newsroom technique, a smart transport hub, Alexa for healthcare, and more.

**Featured News**

****

**smart cities for all collaborate with at&t to launch new inclusive innovation playbook**

May 8, 2019 - Yesterday, [Smart Cities for All](http://smartcities4all.org/), a global initiative of G3ict in partnership with World Enabled, announced the launch of its new [Inclusive Innovation Playbook](http://bit.ly/2GZ7LCY). The tool, developed with the support of AT&T, lays out specific steps that cities and their partners can take to infuse the urban innovation ecosystem with a greater focus on accessibility and a commitment to persons with disabilities.

According to a [Smart Cities for All survey](https://smartcities4all.org/#our-data), 60% of global experts say Smart Cities are failing persons with disabilities today. Just 18% of experts report that the Smart City initiatives familiar to them use international standards for ICT accessibility. Today’s innovation ecosystems are not well prepared to improve on the existing digital divide for persons with disabilities and are likely making it worse. In developing the new Playbook, Smart Cities for All surveyed more than 175 entrepreneurs in technology incubators worldwide. Less than half, just 43%, of entrepreneurs had a strong understanding of accessibility and inclusion in their own product development and user experience (UX) design processes. Fully a third of the entrepreneurs surveyed worldwide were not sure if persons with disabilities could even use the technology products and solutions they are currently developing.

The Smart Cities for All Inclusive Innovation Playbook lays out five “plays” and related actions that cities can take to infuse incubators, accelerators, and the innovation process with a commitment to inclusion and accessibility. The five urban innovation inclusion plays focus on a city’s people, economic assets, infrastructure, networking, and enabling public policies. The Playbook draws from successful practices and insights from the private sector, government, and civil society. Cities that want to ensure their innovation ecosystem is inclusive and results in products, services, and solutions that are more accessible and work for everyone can draw from among all five of the inclusive innovation “plays.”

On the occasion of the launch of the Inclusive Innovation Playbook, Suzanne Montgomery, Chief Accessibility Officer at AT&T, said “Smart Cities technology can transform urban environments to be a better place for all people to live, work and play. It’s critical that we work in unison to foster an entrepreneurial ecosystem that develops technology that’s inclusive and accessible to all. It’s an honor for us at AT&T to offer this resource to cities. We strive to be a catalyst in making inclusive urban environments a reality.”

#### Additional Information:

[Smart Cities for All](http://smartcities4all.org/)

[<https://smartcities4all.org/> ]

[Inclusive Innovation Playbook](http://bit.ly/2GZ7LCY)

[<https://smartcities4all.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Smart-Cities-for-All-A-Vision-for-an-Inclusive-Accessible-Urban-Futur...-min.pdf>]

[Smart Cities for All survey](https://smartcities4all.org/%22%20%5Cl%20%22our-data)

[<https://smartcities4all.org/#our-data> ]

**Legislative Activities**

**Regulations for Robots Approved by Illinois House**

April 18, 2019 – The introduction of futuristic technology for daily use is on the horizon in the state of Illinois. According to the developers at Piaggio Fast Forward, this personal robot, Gita, will follow a person around by “tracking and following the movements of a belt worn by its owner and using cameras to survey the surrounding environment.” However, with the deployment of any new technology, regulatory questions emerge. State Representative, Jaime Andrade (D-IL), sponsored a bill for futuristic technology. House Bill 245 seeks to “regulate the use of mobile carrying devices.” House Bill 245 was amended prior to being passed to include a change in the maximum distance between a personal robot and its owner from 25 feet to 10 feet. The legislation also forbade people from using Gita to transport other people. Legislators and opponents of the robots remain dubious about the feasibility of this device. There are major considerations that remain on the table; some include the appropriate speed, the weight, Gita’s prevalence, and its integration timeline. For now, the legislation remains in the State Senate for approval. [Source: Capital News Illinois]

Source: Piaggio Fast Forward

#### Additional Information:

# [Illinois House approves regulations for futuristic personal robots](http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2019-04-18/illinois-house-approves-regulations-futuristic-personal-robots.html)

[<http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2019-04-18/illinois-house-approves-regulations-futuristic-personal-robots.html>]

**The Digital Equity Act of 2019**

April 11, 2019 – U.S. Senators Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and Patty Murray (D-Wash), along with eight of their colleagues, spearheaded the introduction of new legislation seeking to close the digital gap across the nation. If passed, the Digital Equity Act of 2019 will create and implement digital equity plans, launch digital inclusion projects, and support evidence-based research. To accomplish this, the Act would fund federal grants, distributed by the National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA), to support projects that align with this initiative. The annual grants, in the amount of $250 million, would fund physical infrastructure and programs such as digital literacy and skills education to low-income populations. It would also seek to improve the online accessibility of social services for individuals with disabilities. These federal grants are investments aimed at closing the digital gap by providing people in marginalized communities with tools, support, and technology to access the broadband network.

This bill has received support from advocacy groups, namely The Coalition and the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA), the American Library Association, the Consortium for School Networking, the International Society for Technology in Education, and the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB). The Director of SETDA, Christine Fox, notes that most Americans who cannot access the internet on a daily basis “come from underrepresented and historically marginalized communities, including individuals with disabilities, from low-income backgrounds and those living in rural areas.” If passed, the bill could provide alternatives for those using fast-food restaurants to access internet service to complete tasks such as homework and paying bills. To ensure that this bill reaches its target population(s), it holds NTIA with the task of analyzing the results of grantmaking to "provide policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels with detailed information about which projects are most effective." [Sources: 116th Congress; Emily Tate, EdSurge; John Eggerton, B&C; Big Island Now]

#### Additional Information:

#### [Digital Equity Act of 2019](https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/90396474-445b-427f-bc4d-547031680f1f/ehf19276.pdf)

[<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/90396474-445b-427f-bc4d-547031680f1f/ehf19276.pdf>]

#### [Digital Equity Act Would Provide $250M Annually to Address Digital Divide](https://www.edsurge.com/news/2019-04-12-digital-equity-act-would-provide-250m-annually-to-address-digital-divide)

#### [<https://www.edsurge.com/news/2019-04-12-digital-equity-act-would-provide-250m-annually-to-address-digital-divide>]

[Senate Democrats Introduce Digital Equity Act](https://www.broadcastingcable.com/news/senate-democrats-introduce-digital-equity-act)

#### [<https://www.broadcastingcable.com/news/senate-democrats-introduce-digital-equity-act>]

[Senators Introduce Legislation to Close Digital Equity Gap](http://bigislandnow.com/2019/04/11/senators-introduce-legislation-to-close-digital-equity-gap/)

[<http://bigislandnow.com/2019/04/11/senators-introduce-legislation-to-close-digital-equity-gap/>]

**Regulatory Activities**

**Federal Communications Commission Hosts Forum on ENT**

April 9, 2019 – The FCC’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau will host a public forum in Washington D.C. to discuss the use of enhanced Electronic Newsroom Technique (ENT) procedures for live captioning of local news programming. The ENT is a technique that can convert the dialogue included on a teleprompter script into captions. This specific forum focuses on the enhanced ENT procedures which highlight best practices that must be implemented by a station using ENT to caption its live programming. Among others, attendees will include the FCC’s Disability Rights Office, the Policy Counsel for the National Association of the Deaf, and Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This forum will also host a variety of stakeholders who will discuss the implementation process thus far, as well as industry challenges and solutions. It calls on stakeholders to collaborate on enhanced ENT best practices. The event will be held On May 10, 2019, in the Commission Meeting Room at FCC Headquarters, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-C305, Washington D.C. 20554. The event will also be webcast with open captioning at [www.fcc.gov/live](http://www.fcc.gov/live). If interested in posing questions, there will be an opportunity to ask them in person or by email to livequestions@fcc.gov. [Source: FCC]

#### Additional Information:

[FCC Announces Enhanced Electronic Newsroom Technique Forum](https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-enhanced-electronic-newsroom-technique-forum)

[<https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-enhanced-electronic-newsroom-technique-forum>]

**FCC Call for Comment on Wireless Resiliency Cooperative Framework**

April 1, 2019 – The FCC requests comments on the efficacy of the Wireless Resiliency Cooperative Framework (WRCF). The WRCF is a voluntary wireless industry commitment intended “to promote resilient communications and situational awareness during disasters.” This Public Notice [**PS Docket No. 11-60]** solicits further input after the last round of comments that examined post-disaster action reports for the 2017 and 2018 hurricane seasons. The Bureau is requesting feedback on the implementation and effectiveness of each prong of the Framework. The Framework’s five prongs of commitment include: providing for reasonable roaming arrangements during disasters when technically feasible; fostering mutual aid among wireless providers during emergencies; enhancing municipal preparedness and restoration by convening with local government public safety representatives to develop best practices; and establishing a provider/PSAP contact database; increasing consumer readiness and preparation through development and dissemination with consumer groups of a Consumer Readiness Checklist; and improving public awareness and stakeholder communications on service and restoration status, through Commission posting of data on cell site outages on an aggregated, county-by-county basis in the relevant area through its Disaster Information Reporting System.

To date, the following signatories have committed to adopting the Framework: AT&T Mobility, CTIA, GCI, Southern Linc, Sprint, T-Mobile, U.S. Cellular, and Verizon Wireless. In this Public Notice, the FCC continues to encourage wireless providers to adopt the Framework to help ensure wireless resiliency during natural disasters and other emergencies. The Public Notice states “In addition to stakeholders in the communications and emergency response sectors, we are interested in hearing from industry and government bodies at all levels, and particularly from consumers, including people with disabilities and those who may be disproportionately affected by communications outages, as well as from any other interested stakeholders.” The following questions are posed:

* To what extent would having back-up systems ready to deploy for vulnerable infrastructure improve service restoration time? What challenges do providers face in doing so?
* To what extent would the deployment of a specific number of temporary assets based on a metric such as county subscriber population improve service restoration time?
* How would the ratio of subscribers to temporary assets be determined?
* What challenges would providers face in adhering to such a practice?
* Are there challenges experienced during a specific hurricane that are not accurately reflected in the responses of the signatories to the PSHSB Letters? What are those concerns and their potential solutions?

Reply comments are due on May 20, 2019. Prepared comments for docket number 11-60 can be uploaded via the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System at <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings>. If you need assistance with how to file reply comments, contact salimah@cacp.gatech.edu. [Source: FCC]

#### Additional Information:

[Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Seeks Comment on Improving the Wireless Resiliency Cooperative Framework](https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-19-242A1.pdf)

[<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-19-242A1.pdf>]

**Wireless RERC Updates**

**Contexts of Connectivity Leadership Luncheon Recap**

April 2019 – The Wireless RERC convened a Leadership Luncheon, Contexts of Connectivity, on April 25, 2019. The luncheon topic focused on how smart connected devices enhance access to public and private environments and support the independent living of people with disabilities. Presenters included Maribeth G. Coleman, Associate Director Interactive Media, Institute for People and Technology (IPaT); Liz Persaud, Training and Outreach Coordinator, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation; Douglas Guthrie, Senior Vice President, Comcast – Big South Region; and Ben Jacobs, Accommodations Specialist, Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation.

Gandy’s presentation, *Fostering Awareness, Understanding, and Trust in Smart Environments via Personal Context-aware Tools*, addressed optimizing the value of IoT systems to people with disabilities through design that fosters a trusting relationship between the user and the technology. Gandy asserted that “The overall goal of those technologies is to provide this just in time service or information. Anticipating what you need and then engaging with you at the right time and right way such that it helps you rather than distracts, annoys, or impedes you.” Examples included augmented and mixed reality overlays in the physical environment that support users at different stages of engagement.

Persaud’s presentation, *Technology, Teamwork, and Tenacity*, shared her personal and professional journey and the role of assistive and accessible technologies in achieving her goals. “Assistive technology has been absolutely part of my life. Technology is changing. It's removing social barriers, physical barriers helping me make my journey become endless while fighting the overall obstacle of independence every day,” said Persaud. “If you can control your computer, you can control your environment,” she continued and detailed many of the technologies she uses in the home and office to attach documents to emails, type, adjust lighting, open doors, and so on.

Guthrie’s presentation, *Comcast:  Commitment to Accessibility*, detailed the ways Comcast has risen to the accessibility challenge, particularly for bringing non-visual access to media with their voice remote, and environmental controls via Xfinity Home’s voice commands for lights, thermostat, home security (arm/disarm), and cameras. Guthrie noted that at Comcast, accessibility is considered in the creation of new products so that customers can fully experience offerings. Guthrie stated that “One-third of our households have a disability. We have 1 in 5 people over 65. 29% of Americans are a caregiver. 2 million X1 customers have voice control in their homes. That was over a billion voice commands last year. So, it's amazing how these are coming together. We think of accessibility as being at the forefront of creation, listening to our customers.”

The program closed with Ben Jacobs’ demonstration of the Tools for Life Environmental Controls Lab. Jacobs demonstrated lights with voice controls (Amazon Echo, Google Home), Philips Smart Hue bulbs, Fire TV cube, smart security, video doorbell, smart thermostats, and smart outlets. Jacobs discussed how these devices, though many not designed specifically for people with disabilities, are nonetheless quite helpful, more affordable than specialized devices and equipment, and more easily attainable being that they are mainstream consumer technologies. “A lot of times the consumer technology is more affordable than your medical solutions which you may have to go through insurance for. It's more accessible walking down to target or Walmart and bringing the solution home. Another reason why I look at consumer technology is that a lot of times they tend to be just as effective or more effective than a lot of the medical solutions available,” said Jacobs. Attendees had many questions for all of the speakers but were particularly enthralled with the technology demonstration. However, a central concern was the perceived privacy and security of smart devices, with one attendee stating that she found it exceedingly difficult to get some of her clients that are veterans with disabilities to accept these new technologies. *Trust*, as Gandy pointed out in the opening presentation, being the barrier to adoption.

A more detailed post-event report will be prepared, including attendee feedback. Stay tuned for more.

**Other Items of Interest**

**CACP researchers present at the Southern Gerontological Conference**

April 2019 - Georgia Tech’s Center for Advanced Communications Policy (CACP) was recently well represented at the **Southern Gerontological Conference** April 9 – 13, 2019, in Miramar Beach, Florida. CACP Executive Director Brad Fain gave a presentation: “Mild Cognitive Impairment Empowerment Program,” Paul M.A. Baker presented “Technologies of Inclusion, Enhanced Aging, and the Role of Policy,” and Sarah Farmer presented “HomeLab: A Living Lab for Evaluations.”

#### Additional Information:

[SGS conference information:](https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html)

[<https://southerngerontologicalsociety.org/meeting.html>]

**Medical Technology for Veterans with Disabilities**

April 18, 2019 – The Department of Veteran Affairs launched its assistive technology project that focuses on developing technological devices that assist people with disabilities to perform everyday activities such as brushing one’s hair, adjusting a thermostat, driving, and using a computer. Technologies used in the program are tailored to the needs and wants of the client, with some focusing on entertainment, such as accessible gaming equipment, and others addressing self-care, such as a smartwatch to remind a veteran with a traumatic brain injury to take medications. The purpose of this program is to help veterans with disabilities reclaim independence, a central aspect of adapting to living with a disability. [Source: Bridget Balch, Richmond Times Dispatch]

#### Additional Information:

[McGuire VA Medical Center uses technology to make everyday life easier for veterans with disabilities](https://www.richmond.com/life/health/mcguire-va-medical-center-uses-technology-to-make-everyday-life/article_af69e349-d230-56a3-8a1c-53a7ec73062b.html)

[<https://www.richmond.com/life/health/mcguire-va-medical-center-uses-technology-to-make-everyday-life/article_af69e349-d230-56a3-8a1c-53a7ec73062b.html>]

**Pr2 - Georgia Tech’s Home Robot Prototype**

April 17, 2019 - Georgia Institute of Technology bioengineering professors have made strides with their Home Robot, PR2, in improving its skill set. The PR2 aims to enable the control of complex robots through the use of only a single-button mouse. The key to making this interface accessible to people with disabilities is low-level Web interface that relies on “multiple interface modes and augmented reality for intuitive control of even complex robots.” Presently, the PR2 robot is limited to low-level operations. One user of the PR2 prototype during the testing was able to shave. He also had the robot wipe his face and scratch his head.

Some of the operational modes include looking mode, driving mode, spine mode, and left-hand/right-hand modes. The Looking Mode “displays the mouse cursor as a pair of eyeballs, and the robot looks towards any point where the user clicks on the video.” The other modes are equally as useful and have a plethora of novel uses. Georgia Tech professors discovered this in their study of 15 participants with disabilities. One participant was able to control the robot to hold out a hairbrush to scratch his head and simultaneous wipe his mouth with a towel. The concurrent activities were an unanticipated use of the PR2 robot. However, the PR2 remains in its development stages, but the author notes that the interfaces could be applied to other lower-cost robots and could propel the biotechnology community towards mainstream deployment. [Source: Evan Ackerman, Spectrum]

#### Additional Information:

[Home Robot Control for People With Disabilities](https://spectrum.ieee.org/automaton/robotics/medical-robots/home-robot-control-for-people-with-disabilities)

[<https://spectrum.ieee.org/automaton/robotics/medical-robots/home-robot-control-for-people-with-disabilities>]

**General Services Administration Uses AI Tool For Accessibility**

April 15, 2019 – Often federal agencies develop products and services for the public. These digital resources are mandated to comply with federal accessibility laws. However, the General Services Administration (GSA) conducted a manual review of approximately 1% of solicitations to buy or help build digital services over the last ten years and found that only 10% contained “sufficient language to ensure compliance with [accessibility] mandates.” The development of an AI tool, named the Solicitation Review Tool, ensures that all solicitations meet compliance requirements. The Solicitation Review Tool scans for key accessibility language, but this tool goes beyond the traditional word search. It uses 17 algorithms that examine natural language processing to determine compliance. The AI tool is still in development but has the potential to ensure that federal agencies procure accessible ICTs for the federal workforce and create accessible electronic resources for public engagement. [Source: Aaron, Boyd Nextgov]

#### Additional Information:

[GSA Testing Tool to Ensure Tech Projects Meet Accessibility Rules](https://www.nextgov.com/emerging-tech/2019/04/gsa-testing-tool-ensure-tech-projects-meet-accessibility-rules/156277/)

[<https://www.nextgov.com/emerging-tech/2019/04/gsa-testing-tool-ensure-tech-projects-meet-accessibility-rules/156277/>]

**Meet Matilda: The Smart Transport Hub**

April 8, 2019 – In Adelaide, Australia, SAGE Automation introduced a smart transit hub named Matilda. This system can communicate with driverless vehicles registered to its network and improve coordination with driverless vehicle services. SAGE Automation articulated the primary aim for Matilda as bridging communities with self-driving cars and shuttles. To begin this process, they developed a smart, driverless bus. According to the article, most of the public’s apprehension surrounding self-driving cars stemmed from a lack of knowledge about how they operated. The smart bus, as a public transport, serves as an opportunity to educate the public. The Matilda smart transit hub is also inclusive because it facilitates the independent use of public transportation for people with a hearing, visual, and cognitive disabilities. For people with hearing loss, Matilda directly relays messages to their hearing aid related to their travel such as delayed arrivals and notes of delayed departures. The system can also communicate with those who use sign language. The Matilda system encourages the communities’ use of public transportation by ensuring that it is accessible to all riders. [Source: Vishnu Rajamanickam, FreightWaves]

#### Additional Information:

Smart transport hub Matilda can increase public transportation adoption

[<https://www.freightwaves.com/news/technology/smart-transport-hub-matilda-can-increase-public-transportation-adoption>]

**HIPAA-Compliant Alexa for Healthcare**

April 5, 2019 – Amazon’s cloud-based voice service, Alexa, has expanded to the American healthcare system. Healthcare companies like Cigna and Boston Children’s Hospital have built and developed skills using the Alexa Skills Kit (ASK). ASK is a collection of “self-service APIs, tools, documentation, and code samples.” One such skill that healthcare companies have equipped Alexa with is HIPAA compliant voice apps. The introduction of these six HIPAA eligible Alexa skills include prescription checks, team updates through a voice-controlled application, set-up same day appointments, and allow people to check their recent blood sugar reports. Healthcare companies say that in the near future, healthcare professionals will be able to record patient information on their Echo devices. The possibility of increased medical technology has larger implications for the people with disabilities’ self-care, as well as being assistive to caregivers. For example, it could help those with mobility impairments fill out a healthcare form or remove the need for a computer by vocally providing medical information to a patient. [Source: Global Accessibility News, GAN]

#### Additional Information:

[Amazon Launches HIPAA-Compliant Alexa for Healthcare](http://globalaccessibilitynews.com/2019/04/05/amazon-launches-hipaa-compliant-alexa-for-healthcare/)

[<http://globalaccessibilitynews.com/2019/04/05/amazon-launches-hipaa-compliant-alexa-for-healthcare/>]

**Upcoming Events**

**AAAED 45th National Conference and Annual Meeting**

The 45th National Conference and Annual Meeting will convene June 11 through 13, 2019 in Indianapolis, IN. The theme will be “Moving Beyond Diversity Towards Equity and Inclusion.”

#### Additional Information:

[AAAED Conference Website](https://www.aaaed.org/aaaed/Conference.asp)

[<https://www.aaaed.org/aaaed/Conference.asp>]

**M-Enabling Summit 2019**

The M-Enabling Summit will convene from June 17 to June 19, 2019, 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>]

**Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) 2019**

APPAM 2019 will convene July 29 through 30, 2019 in Barcelona, Spain. Co-hosted by [The Johns Hopkins University - University Pompeu Fabra (JHU-UPF) Public Policy Center](https://www.upf.edu/web/jhu-ppc), this year’s theme is “Public Policy in an Era of Rapid Change.” A global perspective will be taken at this conference with a particular emphasis on informing policies that address social inequalities.

#### Additional Information:

[APPAM 2019](http://www.appam.org/2019-international-conference/)

[<http://www.appam.org/2019-international-conference/>]

**Technology and Disability Policy Highlights, April 2019**



The Technology and Disability Policy Highlights (TDPH) is a monthly newsletter that reports on national public policy events and tracks emerging issues of interest to individuals with disabilities, researchers, policymakers, industry, and advocacy professionals. The Wireless RERC is a research center that promotes universal access to wireless technologies and explores their innovative applications in addressing the needs, user experiences, and expectations 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 Salimah LaForce [[salimah@cacp.gatech.edu](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Csalimah%5COneDrive%20-%20Georgia%20Institute%20of%20Technology%5CwiRERC_2016%20-%202021%5CTDPH%5CApril%202017%5Csalimah%40cacp.gatech.edu)] or Dara Bright [dara.bright@cacp.gatech.edu].

If you wish to unsubscribe or update your email address, send an email to salimah@cacp.gatech.edu.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The contents of this newsletter were developed under a grant from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR grant number 90RE5025-01-00).  NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).  The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.