



TECHNOLOGY AND DISABILITY POLICY HIGHLIGHTS – APRIL 2020

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OVERVIEW

In April, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to make 1,200 megahertz of spectrum in the 6 GHz band available for unlicensed use to help the deployment of WiFi 6. According to FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, the agency suggests the use of the 6 GHz band for low-power devices like "accessibility technology for Americans with disabilities, virtual reality gaming, augmented reality glasses, in-vehicle systems, and other emerging technologies." However, while some actively await the opportunity of WiFi 6, other organizations have raised concerns. The opinions of those in favor and those against the FCC's decision are discussed in the newsletter. Also on the FCC docket is a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to expand video description regulations. Starting on January 1, 2021, and continuing annually for four years, the NPRM proposes that ten additional designated market areas be added; the FCC invites comment on this proposal, specifically seeking, among other things to understand the economic impact of COVID-19 on the reasonableness of the proposed expansion requirements. Also related to COVID-19, the FCC released a Report and Order [**85 FR 19892; 47 CFR 54**] establishing a COVID-19 Telehealth Program and a Connected Care Pilot Program.

In Wireless RERC news, we have extended the deadline for paper proposal submissions for a special issue of the *Assistive Technology* journal to May 15, 2020. Read the full [call for papers](#) for details. We also continue data collection for our [2020 Survey of User Needs](#). If you haven't already, please take the [survey](#). Finally, the Wireless RERC submitted comments to the FCC in response to their Public Notice *In the Matter of the Accessibility of Communications Technologies for the 2020 Biennial Report Required by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act* [**CG Docket No. 10-213**]. Overall, [the comments](#) indicated the industry's growth in the accessibility and affordability of advanced communications technologies, as evidenced by the increasing presence and richness of new accessibility features on Lifeline-provided mobile devices. However, some access gaps remain, particularly regarding new communications technologies.

This issue also includes news about video relay service, I-Connect Plus, Autism Spectrum Disorder, the Tech Access Initiative, Text-to-911, Smart Home Tech, and more.

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES

THE FEEDBACK ON FCC'S RULING FOR 6 GHZ BAND

April 23, 2020 — The FCC voted to make 1,200 megahertz of spectrum in the 6 GHz band available for unlicensed use to help the deployment of WiFi 6, the next generation WiFi standard expected to be twice as fast as the current standard. WiFi is commonly used for accessing online resources, but it can also connect smart devices. As this initiative goes forward, the FCC anticipates that the unlicensed spectrum will handle 70% of traffic as 5G use expands. According to FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, the agency is encouraging the use of the 6 GHz band for low-power devices like "accessibility technology for Americans with disabilities, virtual reality gaming, augmented reality glasses, in-vehicle systems, and other emerging technologies." FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks suggests that the move will encourage more "free public WiFi access at hot spots across the nation." While Comcast Corporation anticipates improved "WiFi performance and capacity." Amazon was focused on the FCC's decision to enable innovation by, "allow[ing] us to deliver a smarter, faster, and more convenient customer experience." However, while some actively await the opportunity of WiFi 6, other organizations have raised concerns about interference. For example, AT&T is concerned that "the FCC's order will allow the introduction of devices that can impair, or even knock out, links in the networks that monitor our electric grid, enable first responders to communicate and provide mobile broadband services to millions of Americans, particularly in rural areas." The Utilities Technology Council considers the FCC's approach risky. While The National Association of Broadcasters referred to the FCC decision as a "fingers-crossed" approach that "shockingly forgoes any independent analysis that interference won't be too bad or happen too often." [Source: David Shepardson & Jonathan Oatis via Business Insider].

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[FCC votes to open more spectrums for faster WiFi later this year as wireless networks experience increased strain](https://www.businessinsider.com/us-fcc-votes-to-open-additional-spectrum-for-wi-fi-use-2020-4)

<https://www.businessinsider.com/us-fcc-votes-to-open-additional-spectrum-for-wi-fi-use-2020-4>

FCC PROPOSED EXPANSION OF VIDEO DESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS

April 23, 2020 — The FCC published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to expand video description regulations. Starting on January 1, 2021, and continuing annually for four years, the rulemaking proposes that ten additional designated market areas (DMAs) be included; the FCC invites comment on this proposal. This NPRM is in response to the recommendations in the second biennial report to congress concerning the *21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010* (CVAA). Currently, video description rules require covered entities to provide 50 hours of video described programming annually, during prime time or on programming for children, and 37.5 hours of video described programming per quarter between 6:00 a.m. and midnight. This proposed market

expansion would enable more persons who are blind or have low vision to access television programming. Initial comments are due on May 23, 2020. Specifically, the NPRM is seeking input on, among other things:

- Whether the economic impact of COVID-19 should be factored into evaluating the costs of the proposed expansions and compliance deadline.
- The ten markets per year phased approach.
- Using Nielsen ratings to determine which entities would be subject to the video description requirement.
- Modernizing the terminology to use audio description in lieu of video description. [Source: FCC]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Video Description NPRM](#)

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-55A1.pdf>

FCC RELEASES NEW TELEHEALTH PROGRAM REPORT AND ORDER

April 9, 2020 — The FCC released a Report and Order [**85 FR 19892; 47 CFR 54**], effective April 9, 2020, establishing a COVID-19 Telehealth Program and a Connected Care Pilot Program. In response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 disease pandemic (COVID-19), the telehealth program will distribute a \$200 million appropriation from the CARES Act to facilitate the provision of connected care services for in-home "visits" or mobile location visits. The pilot program will make available up to \$100 million over three years to investigate how the Universal Service Fund can be supportive of connected care services for low-income Americans and veterans. [Source: FCC]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers; COVID-19 Telehealth Program](#)

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/09/2020-07587/promoting-telehealth-for-low-income-consumers-covid-19-telehealth-program>

LIFELINE PROGRAM CHANGES AND WAIVERS

April 3, 2020 — The FCC waived specific restrictions regarding video relay service providers (VRS) hiring contractors not associated with an eligible VRS provider. Now, VRS providers can contract additional qualified American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation services to meet increased demand. The waiver went into effect immediately and will extend until May 15, 2020. [Source: FCC]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Temporary Waiver Permits VRS Providers to Contract for Interpreters](#)

<https://www.fcc.gov/document/temporary-waiver-permits-vrs-providers-contract-interpreters>

WIRELESS RERC UPDATES

CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Wireless RERC is accepting paper proposals for an *Assistive Technology Journal* Special Issue. The Issue reflects the Wireless RERC's forthcoming 2020 State of Technology Forum themes: Include, Innovate, and Transform. These three cross-cutting elements have been chosen as particularly characteristic of the rapidly advancing, technology-driven field over the last 20 years.

In response to requests, we have extended the submission deadline to May 15, 2020 but would appreciate receiving the short abstracts (max 300 words) as soon as possible.

For a list of topics and other details, read the full CFP: <http://www.wirelessrerc.gatech.edu/call-papers-wireless-inclusive-rerc-state-technology-forum-2020>

Submission should be made to Paul M.A. Baker, Associate Editor, Wireless Forum Special Issue: Paul.baker@gatech.edu.

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY, TAKE AND SHARE THE LATEST SURVEY OF USER NEEDS!

The SUN is the Wireless RERC's cornerstone survey on wireless technology use by people with disabilities. This latest version has been updated in response to changes in technology. In addition to questions about cell phone and tablet use, this version of the SUN collects information about wearables, "smart" home technologies, and other next-generation wirelessly connected devices.

Your responses will:

- Help designers and engineers make more accessible wireless devices, features, and services for people with disabilities, and
- Inform recommendations to better ensure inclusive policies and practices.

If you have a disability, please consider taking this survey. If you know someone who has a disability, please send the survey to them.

Take the survey online at <http://bit.ly/wRERC-SUN2020>, or

Scan the QR Code to open the survey on your mobile device, or

Take the survey via phone, call 404-839-8741.



WIRELESS RERC ON THE RECORD: ACCESSIBILITY OF LIFELINE-PROVIDED PHONES AND NEW COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

April 14, 2020 - The Wireless RERC submitted comments to the FCC in response to their Public Notice *In the Matter of the Accessibility of Communications Technologies for the 2020 Biennial Report Required by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act* [**CG Docket No. 10-213**]. In anticipation of the Public Notice, the Wireless RERC conducted a 2019/20¹ Mobile Phone Accessibility Review (Accessibility Review/Review). The Review included mobile phone models available up to February 2020 from the top four wireless carriers, one prepaid carrier, and five Lifeline Carriers.² Data analysis for the Accessibility Review is still underway and will inform future comments in response to the FCC's Preliminary Findings Report. For this filing, however, we provided input based on the analysis of the subsample of Lifeline-provided mobile phones. Additionally, the comments were informed by the results of our cornerstone survey on wireless technology use by people with disabilities, the [Survey of User Needs](#) (SUN). Overall, the comments indicated the industry's growth in the accessibility and affordability of advanced communications technologies, as evidenced by the increasing presence and richness of new accessibility features on Lifeline-provided mobile devices. Furthermore, SUN analysis found that a majority of respondents with disabilities indicated that both basic cell phones and smartphones were easy to use. However, some access gaps remain, particularly regarding new communications technologies. Based on the data presented in the comments, the Wireless RERC offered the following recommendations:

- To better ensure access to emergency alerts for users with disabilities that prefer non-smartphones, increase the percentage of non-smartphones that are WEA-capable.
- To improve total access to the systems and devices, companies should explore and develop solutions for how one who is blind would be able to independently set-up the technology.
- Increased attention should be paid to ensuring access by people who are Deaf to smart speaker technologies that have a screen (e.g., Amazon Echo Show), such as the development of a gesture interface that understands ASL.
- To improve access by those with non-standard speech to smart speakers and voice input on mobile devices, we encourage the inclusion of AI that has been trained to understand those with atypical speech patterns.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Read the Wireless RERC's Comments at [wrenc_comments_april_2020_final-cvaa_2020_report_to_congress.pdf](#)

¹ Phone models were identified in October 2019, and again in February 2020, at which time, additional phone models were available.

² A random number generator was used to select five Lifeline carriers for inclusion in the review.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

I-CONNECT PLUS IMPROVES FOCUS FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

April 2020 — A tablet-system prototype, entitled I-CONNECT PLUS, from a NIDILRR-funded project, has shown encouraging results in helping students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Four teen and pre-teen boys with ASD were selected to participate in a study on the effectiveness of I-CONNECT PLUS in helping them stay on task at school. ASD is a developmental disability that affects communication and information processing. A common experience of a person with ASD is difficulty in staying focused on tasks that they do not find intriguing. I-CONNECT PLUS is a self-monitoring system designed to support students with ASD in staying on task while completing schoolwork. First, the study collected baseline data in which the participants were recorded completing in-class work independently. Time spent, frequency of on and off-task behaviors, disruptive actions, and percentage of assignment completion were collected. Then the same types of data were collected while the students used I-CONNECT PLUS. After using the prototype intervention, behaviors were again measured while the student worked independently to determine if I-CONNECT PLUS was effective.

Results showed that on-task behavior increased from approximately 20% to about 85% while using I-CONNECT PLUS, disruptive behaviors decreased by more than 50% from the baseline, and task completion rates were 100% compared to 15% at baseline. The researchers recommend that future research examine the different types of self-monitoring systems for young people with ASD in multiple settings, such as in the classroom or the workplace. The complete study can be found below under additional information. [Source: National Rehabilitation Information Center]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[A New Tablet-Based System Shows Promise in Helping Teens with Autism Spectrum Disorder Stay on Task at School](#)

<https://www.naric.com/?q=en/rif/A%20New%20Tablet-Based%20System%20Shows%20Promise%20in%20Helping%20Teens%20with%20Autism%20Spectrum%20Disorder%20Stay%20on%20Task%20at%20School>

NEW TEXT-TO-SPEECH AUDIO FEATURE FOR NEWS

April 29, 2020 — The company McClatchy is introducing a text-to-speech audio feature so that users can listen to its digital news content. The firm has 30 newsrooms in the U.S., and the text-to-speech audio feature will be available for all of their newsrooms. It is the first local news media company of its size, to implement this technology. Despite increased viewership, higher ratings for TV news, and boosts in online traffic, the media industry is nevertheless feeling the economic effects of COVID-19. Primarily because massive declines in advertising revenue as businesses are shuttered under stay-at-home orders across the country. Though this effort was pursued for cost efficiency, this initiative can

result in increased accessibility for people with disabilities, particularly those with vision and print disabilities, in being able to access more digital news content. [Source: Joe Concha via The Hill]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[McClatchy unveils text-to-speech feature to listen to news content](#)

<https://thehill.com/homenews/media/495216-mcclatchy-unveils-speech-to-text-feature-to-listen-to-news-content>

TECH RESOURCES INITIATIVE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPINAL CORD INJURIES

April 29, 2020 — The Tech Access Initiative, launched by the United Spinal Association, seeks to assist tech companies with designing inclusive products and services for people with spinal cord injuries and disorders (SCI/D). [United Spinal's Tech Access Initiative seeks individuals with mobility disabilities to participate as testers](#) to provide insights to help cutting-edge technologies be accessible to all. The focus is on improving technologies that are crucial for environmental navigation and control and communications. These various technologies include autonomous vehicles, artificial intelligence, and environmental controls; medical and mobility equipment; wheelchair and smart home technology; and augmentative and alternative communication devices. While these types of access technologies are critical regardless of current events, COVID-19 has highlighted an urgent need to facilitate digital interaction and virtual inclusion of people with disabilities who are sheltering-in-place with limited access to resources and support. Access to the assistive and accessible technologies can help to alleviate feelings of isolation; create mechanisms for resource distribution (i.e., medical or household supplies, care workers, accessible transportation, etc.); share emergency preparedness and crisis management information, and facilitate access to telehealth medical resources and peer support. [Source: PR Newswire via Yahoo! Finance]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Tech Access Initiative Volunteer Participation Inquiry](#)

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/tech-access.](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/tech-access)

[United Spinal Launches National Initiative To Expand Access To Inclusive Technology For People With Spinal Cord Injuries And Disorders](#)

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/united-spinal-launches-national-initiative-133000241.html>

AUSTRALIA'S INSURANCE COMPANIES STEP UP FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

April 28, 2020 — In response to the global pandemic, participants in Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) are eligible to purchase assistive technology through this organization to help them navigate the COVID-19 crisis and the new reality of self-isolation. This initiative is vital to people with disabilities as they attempt to access important services such as telehealth appointments. Plan carriers can use their existing "plan funding to purchase assistive technology is a welcome step

by the government," says ACCAN Director of Inclusion, Wayne Hawkins. These benefits are available for the next five months. In addition, NDIS is offering support items for Supported Independent Living (SIL) providers to assist them with serving participants who have contracted coronavirus and include higher intensity support and professional cleaning services. [Source: ITWire]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[COVID-19: NDIS users get access to assistive tech during self-isolation](https://www.itwire.com/health/covid-19-ndis-users-get-access-to-assistive-tech-during-self-isolation.html)

<https://www.itwire.com/health/covid-19-ndis-users-get-access-to-assistive-tech-during-self-isolation.html>

[Further initiatives to support NDIS participants and providers during coronavirus pandemic](https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/4758-further-initiatives-support-ndis-participants-and-providers-during-coronavirus-pandemic)

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/4758-further-initiatives-support-ndis-participants-and-providers-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

APP AND WEBSITE ACCESS FOR QUICK SERVE RESTAURANTS

April 20, 2020 — As mobile delivery and quick-serve restaurant webpages become increasingly prevalent, so has the number of lawsuits by individuals with disabilities asserting that businesses' websites and mobile apps violate ADA discrimination prohibitions on the basis of disability in "places of public accommodation." Outside Insights identified some recommendations for restaurant and business owners to ensure compliance with federal law and regulations. Restaurant operators should make their websites and apps accessible to individuals with disabilities. For example, if a website or app has videos on it, the videos should have closed captioning or some other text alternative for people who are hard of hearing and signed content for those who are Deaf.

Citing lack of federal guidance, Outside Insights reports that it is difficult for businesses to identify accessibility issues and solutions and the steps that should be taken to make its website accessible. However, the Worldwide Web Consortium (W3C) developed [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/) with a detailed list of steps website owners and operators can take to make their websites accessible to individuals with disabilities. [Sources: Charles S. Marion via QSR, W3C]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[What Restaurants Need to Know About ADA Website and Mobile App Accessibility](https://www.qsrmagazine.com/outside-insights/what-restaurants-need-know-about-ada-website-and-mobile-app-accessibility)

<https://www.qsrmagazine.com/outside-insights/what-restaurants-need-know-about-ada-website-and-mobile-app-accessibility>

[Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/)

<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>

THE USE OF TEXT-TO-911 ACROSS AMERICA

April 14, 2020 — Text-to-911 is not a widely-available service across the country. Some states have municipalities who offer text-to-911, while some states work to provide this accessibility option for all municipalities. Even still, there are some states where text-to-911 simply does not exist. Since the data on the availability of text-to-911 is spotty, it is difficult to get a consistent national picture. To illustrate text-to-911 deployment discrepancies, the article highlights several states' approaches. In Minnesota, even though only 34 of the state's 97 primary PSAPs are capable of receiving text messages, because of their regional approach, anybody can text 911 anywhere in the state and be sure that it will reach an emergency dispatcher. While Minnesota has a unified governing body for PSAPs, Texas has three different governing bodies that all handle different groups of PSAPs. In contrast, Indiana's method of text-to-911 adoption relied on particular areas to adopt it on their own. But the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates emergency services are equally accessible to people with disabilities. As this aspect of the ADA becomes ingrained in the country's delivery of emergency services, we should continue to see a rise in text-to-911 usage and increased accessibility across the country.

Available evidence does indeed suggest that text-to-911 has continued to rise in recent years. About 15% of dispatch centers in the U.S., called public safety answering points (PSAPs), can receive text messages. Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's annual [National 911 Progress Report](#) shows that the number of texts sent to emergency dispatchers each year rose from about 1,000 in 2014 to more than 188,000 in 2018. This progress is paramount to people with disabilities, particularly those with hearing and speech disabilities, because it allows them to contact and communicate with 911 call centers from their mobile devices. [Source: Ben Miller via Government Technology]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Text-to-911 Saves Lives, but Data Suggests It Remains Rare](#)

https://www.govtech.com/data/Text-to-911-Saves-Lives-but-Data-Suggests-it-Remains-Rare.html?utm_term=READ%20MORE&utm_campaign=Text-to-911%20Saves%20Lives%2C%20but%20Data%20Suggests%20it%20but%20Remains%20Rare&utm_content=email&utm_source=Act-On+Software&utm_medium=email

CREATING ACCESSIBLE COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH VISION DISABILITIES

April 9, 2020 — For people with vision disabilities, much of the information related to the COVID-19 is inaccessible. COVID-19 messaging includes data visualizations such as charts and infographics; however, this information is often lacking alternate formats or alternative text. Developing a tactile version of these charts would require an accessible media specialist and access to expensive machinery. Further, widespread delivery of the tactile versions is impractical, given that the COVID-

19 numbers change daily. Naomi Rosenberg, an accessible media specialist at Lighthouse, notes some of the challenges associated with braille embossers for graphs and charts. The primary issue is the lower resolution caused by the fact that braille embossers are meant to be read by fingertips as opposed to eyes. She says that "clutter is the enemy of tactical legibility." Furthermore, most people do not have these machines in their homes, and finding a publicly available one violates many stay-at-home orders and risks exposure. But a private citizen has stepped into the gap. Tyler Littlefield, a software developer, created a [fully accessible COVID-19 statistics tracker](#) which converts available data around the crisis to a text format. This format makes it accessible to people who use screen reading software to navigate and access the content. [Source: Melanie Ehrenkranz via Vice]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Vital Coronavirus Information Is Failing the Blind and Visually Impaired](https://www.vice.com/en_ca/article/4ag9wb/vital-coronavirus-information-is-failing-the-blind-and-visually-impaired)

https://www.vice.com/en_ca/article/4ag9wb/vital-coronavirus-information-is-failing-the-blind-and-visually-impaired

[Accessible COVID-19 statistics tracker](https://cvstats.net/)

<https://cvstats.net/>

SMART HOME TECHNOLOGY DEVICES ASSISTIVE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

April 8, 2020 — Smart home technologies have become an important assistive tool for people with disabilities in establishing their independence. Some devices that have proven useful include the Amazon Echo which allows users to control devices via voice; Smart Lock allows individuals to choose who has access to their home and how often; Smart Doorbell allows the user to see who's at the door via a motion sensor camera, Smart Thermostat can ensure a comfortable home temperature at all times; Smart Lighting and Outlets can permit users to turn lights off or on via apps; Smart Window Dressings allows individuals to install window treatments that can be operated remotely, and Smart Garage Door Opener allows operation of the garage door remotely. For people *without* disabilities, these functions may be perceived as a convenience, while for some people *with* disabilities, smart home technologies represent new opportunities for independent living. These smart devices are diminishing reliance on friends, relatives, and caregivers to perform tasks so many people without disabilities take for granted, such as changing the channel on the television, answering the door, or opening the curtains. [Source: Russ Ewell via Patch]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[Home Tech Devices to Help People with Disabilities](https://patch.com/california/paloalto/home-tech-devices-help-people-disabilities)

<https://patch.com/california/paloalto/home-tech-devices-help-people-disabilities>

MAKING SPORTS AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WITH VISUAL DISABILITIES

April 6, 2020 — The newest technology, a "touchy-feely" board, assists individuals with vision disabilities in enjoying spectator sports. The device is a magnetic board that is being tested on Scottish rugby. Participants move a small magnetic ball around the pitch-shaped board to indicate players' positions and the movement of the ball. The "touchy-feely" board operates using raised areas and indentation. The lines of the pitch and goalposts are raised, and different areas of the playing surface have different textures to feel. This tactile board, when used with audio described commentary, gives fans with vision loss an inclusive experience. The aim is to expand the usability of this device to other sports, and perhaps the United States in the future. [Source: James Moncur via Daily Record]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[New 'touchy-feely' gadget lets blind rugby fans get closer to action than ever](#)

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/new-touchy-feely-gadget-lets-21818758>

UPCOMING EVENTS

2020 M-ENABLING SUMMIT

The M-Enabling Summit will convene from September 14 to 16, 2020, in Washington, D.C. Summit presenters will cover topics such as robotics, wearables, virtual and augmented reality, artificial intelligence, and IoT.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

[M-Enabling Website](#)

<https://m-enabling.com/>

TECHNOLOGY AND DISABILITY POLICY HIGHLIGHTS, APRIL 2020

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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

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