

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990



Signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. President George H.W. Bush (center), Evan Kemp Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (left) and Justin Dart, Chairman, President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (right). Standing are the Rev. Harold Wilke (left) and Sandra Swift Parrino, Chairperson, National Council on Disability (right).

As a result of tireless efforts of disability activists, law makers, and people with disabilities, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26th, 1990. The ADA is the first exclusive civil rights law for people with disabilities and protects over 50 million Americans. The law opens the doors to inclusion within employment, state and local governments, transportation, private businesses, and telecommunications. The passage of the ADA was overwhelmingly adopted in both houses of Congress. Implementation of the law began in 1992. The ADA was later amended with changes effective January 1, 2009.

Senate Vote:

91-6

House Vote:

377-28