

Action Alert January 2022

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## National Federation of Democratic Women supports the enforcement and expansion of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities that are like those provided to individuals on the basis of race, sex, national origin, and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in employment, public accommodations, transportation, State and local government services, and telecommunications.

Even though the ADA provides explicit parameters for public and private entities in order to eliminate discriminatory practices against people with disabilities, too often violations go unchecked. It is essential to provide more resources for oversight bodies (e.g., the U.S. Department of Justice) as well as more education and involvement of those attorneys who enforce the ADA.

The ADA has undoubtedly made noteworthy progress toward increased accessibility and integration; however, there is still a long way to go. The ADA should be expanded to prevent discrimination against people with disabilities in ALL aspects of American life so that everyone with a disability may live fully integrated into society. The various sections of the ADA apply only to specific activities – employment, transportation, public accommodations, communications, and government activities – and even these specific sections do not apply to everyone. For example, only employers with fifteen or more employees are subject to the ADA.

The ADA and any integration mandates that followed served to lay the groundwork and tools for the enforcement of the rights of people with disabilities. NFDW remains vigilant in its advocacy for equality, equity, and inclusion of those with disabilities.

Please make your calls to support enforcement and expansion of the Americans with Disabilities Act.