

**Date sent:** October 13, 2010

**Subject:** 21<sup>st</sup> Century Accessibility Act Passed

**Signed by President Obama: October 8, 2010 – P.L. 111-260, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act**

**Released: October 8, 2010 – News Release, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski's Statement of the Signing of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act**

Washington, D.C. -- Today, President Obama signed The 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (S.3304) into law. The following statement can be attributed to Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski:

“The 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act is the most significant disability law in two decades. The law’s provisions were endorsed in the FCC’s National Broadband Plan. They will bring communication laws into the 21st Century, providing people with disabilities access to new broadband technologies and promoting new opportunities for innovation.

“Most importantly, the new law will ensure that people with disabilities are not left behind and can share fully in the economic and social benefits of broadband. The law will enable people with disabilities to participate in our 21<sup>st</sup> century economy.

“It is thanks to the bipartisan efforts of the legislation’s sponsors Representative Markey and Senator Pryor and the bipartisan commitment of Chairmen Representative Waxman and Senator Rockefeller and ranking members Representative Barton and Senator Hutchison that this update to our nation’s disability laws has become a reality. Subcommittee Chairmen Representative Boucher and Senator Kerry and ranking members Representative Stearns and Senator Ensign are also to be commended for their tireless work.

“The FCC, with the tremendous leadership of longtime advocate Karen Peltz Strauss, looks forward to working with consumer, industry, and government stakeholders as we assume the responsibility of ensuring the effective implementation of this landmark legislation.”

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