The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access

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INTRODUCTION

Authorised in 2013 and unanimously passed by the Colorado State Legislature in 2014, “The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access” affords a regulatory framework that provides technology inclusion for individuals with cognitive disabilities in all 50 states of the U.S. Without a firm understanding of how people with intellectual and developmental disabilities can use and advance uses of information and communication technologies, we cannot hope to transcend their inclusion in modern society. Technology does not simply provide convenience but instead is a necessity for full inclusion and citizenship.

The ramifications for access are also well documented in Eliza Veney’s article “Disability and Information Technology: A Comparative Study in Media Representation” (2013). Dr. Veney states: “The regulatory approach for the ICT (Information and Technology) sector should perceive persons with disabilities not only as consumers but as citizens with democratic expectations or effective access to information. Furthermore, the regulatory framework should be based on a clearly defined framework of principles such as equality of citizenship and the protection of human dignity (p. 36).”

The Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities will promote and provide grants to promote the inclusion of individuals with cognitive disabilities. Grants will be awarded competitively. Information about the grants will be available at www.colemaninstitute.org/declaration. Proposals will be reviewed by the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. Applications will be reviewed by the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis only. Grants are not simply provided as convenience but are necessary for the full inclusion of individuals with cognitive disabilities.

HOW TO SIGN

Join the social movement that calls for technology inclusion for people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

You may sign as an individual and/or as an organization. Visit www.colemaninstitute.org/declaration

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Endorse the Declaration – Encourage friends, family and colleagues to do the same. Pro-social media outlets such as Facebook and Twitter

Start a Conversation – Take the time to educate your immediate network (family, friends, colleagues), by sharing the information available from the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. Contact the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities.

Enact State Legislation – Using The State Legislative Toolkit from the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities, take steps to ensure that your state enacts this critical legislation. Guidance and tips to ensure success include:

Connection & Education are Key
Identify Champions
Spread the word …
And
Share the News

Tail and repeat stories often – reflect on how access to information and technology increases independence and quality of life.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

DECLARATION IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS (DIGS)

1. The Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities will provide grants to promote implementation of “The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access” in states and communities.

2. Grantees will be awarded competitively.

3. Grants will range from $500 to $10,000.

4. Proposals will be reviewed by the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities and Consultants.

5. Information about the grants will be available at www.colemaninstitute.org.

SIGN HERE:
http://www.colemaninstitute.org/declaration

YOUR SIGNATURE MATTERS

320 Organizations & 603 Individuals have endorsed “The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access”