

# Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program



The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of our nation's federally-funded protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP provides quality, legally-based advocacy services to Alabamians with disabilities in order to protect, promote and expand their rights. ADAP is part of the [National Disability Rights Network \(NDRN\)](#).

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## **Alabama's Ventilator Rationing Plan**

On Tuesday, March 24, 2020, ADAP filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights (OCR) asserting that [Alabama's ventilator rationing plan](#) discriminates against people with intellectual and cognitive disabilities, in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other laws. The complaint was filed on behalf of Alabamians with intellectual and cognitive disabilities who will likely die if medical professionals are allowed to withhold health care services from them on the basis of their disabilities. The complainants ask HHS to take immediate action to address this discrimination and assist local jurisdictions and providers to develop non-discriminatory approaches to health care rationing in light of the current COVID-19 crisis. The complaint was filed with ADAP's partners at the Arc of the United States, the Arc of Alabama, the Center for Public Representation, the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, and Samuel

Bagenstos.

Copies of the complaint and press release can be found here:

Complaint- [https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AL-OCR-Complaint\\_3.24.20.docx.pdf](https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AL-OCR-Complaint_3.24.20.docx.pdf)

Press release- <https://www.centerforpublicrep.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/AL-OCR-press-release.pdf>

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