



March 3, 2020

The Honorable Jim Langevin
United States Representative
2077 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Langevin:

On behalf of the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR), I am writing in support of the Disability Access to Transportation Act. Thank you for recognizing the need for greater transportation accessibility for people with sensory, cognitive and physical disabilities. We are enthusiastic about your proposed pilot programs to improve paratransit, pedestrian rights-of-way, data accessibility and protection of accessibility rights through enhancement of the accessibility complaints process.

ANCOR is a national, nonprofit trade association representing more than 1,600 private community providers of services to people with disabilities. Combined, we support over one million individuals with disabilities, and work to shape policy, share solutions and strengthen the community. Our members and the Direct Support Professional (DSPs) they employ help individuals navigate public and private transportation to they can accomplish goals such as finding employment or enjoy time in the community. As such, your legislation resonated with us.

There is a clear need for government action in this area. A [2012 joint report](#) by the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) and the Leadership Conference Education Fund shows how transportation challenges affect the most fundamental aspects of people with disabilities' daily life. The report finds that: "Of the nearly 2 million people with disabilities who never leave their homes, 560,000 never leave home because of transportation difficulties." The pilot programs your legislation would create could set the foundation for policy innovations that could help millions be as much a part of the world as their peers without disabilities.

We are grateful for your attention to accessibility issues and look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this. Please reach out to me at smeek@ancor.org if you need anything – we are happy to be a resource.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Meek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Meek
Senior Director of Legislative Affairs