**National Federation of the Blind**

**Washington Seminar 2022 Internal Presentation Notes**

**Access Technology Affordability Act (H.R. 431/S. 212)**

Refundable tax credit in the amount of $2,000 for use over a three-year period.

Covers blind person, blind spouse, and blind dependents.

Blind is defined as legal blindness.

“Qualified access technology” means hardware, software, or other information technology the primary function of which is to convert or adapt information which is visually represented into forms or formats useable by blind individuals.

Includes cost-of-living adjustment.

Sunsets after five years.

Is not means tested.

Score is $3.1 billion over ten years.

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**Medical Device Nonvisual Accessibility Act (H.R. 4853)**

Requires all Class II and Class III medical devices with a digital interface to be nonvisually accessible.

FDA has one year to publish a proposed rule.

FDA has an additional year to publish the final rule.

The standard would go into effect one year after the publication of the final rule.

Uses existing penalty structure that would apply to other noncompliant, or “adulterated”, medical devices.

FDA maintains a website listing all Class II and Class III devices.

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**Twenty-First Century Websites and Applications Accessibility Act**

Would create a regulatory framework for accessibility of websites and applications.

Access Board directed to create accessibility guidelines for websites and apps.

Access Board has six months to create guidelines and publish proposed rule.

Access Board has an additional six months to publish the final rule.

Department of Justice and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission will have one year after the publication of the final rule to adopt accessibility standards based on the guidelines published by the Access Board.

Department of Justice and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission will have the authority to investigate accessibility concerns and commence civil action if necessary.

Would apply to websites and applications owned and operated by an employer, public accommodation, or public entity.

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**Transformation to Competitive Integrated Employment Act (H.R. 2373/S. 3238)**

Discontinues the issuance of 14(c) special wage certificates.

Bill divided into five titles.

Title I creates a grant program for states and individual 14(c) certificate holders to assist with their transition to competitive, integrated employment.

Title II phases out, over a five-year period, the payment of subminimum wages to people with disabilities, ultimately sunsetting Section 14(c) of the FLSA.

Title III creates a Technical Assistance Center.

Title IV requires reporting to Congress on the transition for workers with disabilities into competitive integrated employment.

Title V is definitions and the authorization of appropriations.

The House authorization is $300 million, Senate authorization is $1 billion.

Phase-out: Year 1 = 60%, Year 2 = 70%, Year 3 = 80%, Year 4 = 90%, Year 5 = 100% of current minimum wage.