

Disability Vote Matters

Look for all the brochures in the series:

- **Voter ID requirements and Election Day issues**
- **Your right to get assistance in voting**
- **The role of Disability Service Organizations**
- **Absentee voting**
- **Accessible polling places — your right**



Voting matters! Let your voice be heard!

Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania
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Pittsburgh, PA 15219

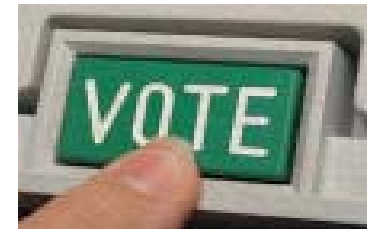
The power of the disability vote!

Disability Vote Matters

www.drnpa.org



The power of the disability vote!



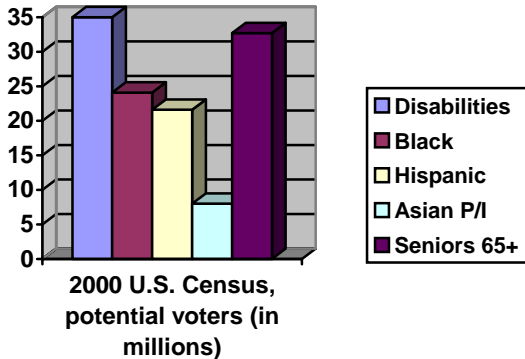
Disability Rights Network of Pennsylvania

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Awakening the Sleeping Giant

According to the latest census, 35 million Americans with disabilities are of voting age. This means that voters with disabilities are now one of the largest groups of potential voters (called voting blocs) in American politics.



Some have called the disability vote the “Sleeping Giant” of American politics. This is because people with disabilities have not voted in the same numbers as most Americans.

If people with disabilities register and vote at the same rate as the rest of the nation, between 5 and 10 million more votes will be cast in the next Presidential election!

What difference could 10 million votes make?

Almost every Presidential election has been decided by fewer than 10 million votes!

Year	Race	Margin of victory
1996	Clinton vs. Dole	8.2 million votes
1992	Clinton vs. Bush	5.8 million votes
1988	Bush vs. Dukakis	7.1 million votes
1980	Reagan vs. Carter	8.4 million votes
1976	Carter vs. Ford	1.7 million votes

Candidates running for office will be the decision-makers of what programs will be funded, or not — and whether you get services or you get the Waiting List:

- Housing • Education • Health care • ADA enforcement • Transportation • Community and rehabilitation services • Jobs

Your vote matters, but only if you use it!



People with disabilities can be a powerful voting bloc like seniors!

Seniors don’t all vote for the same candidate, but they are a powerful voting bloc because they vote! When people with disabilities vote in higher numbers, the issues important to them will be on the radar for ALL political candidates.

Know your rights about voting

- ▶ You have a right to get assistance from the person of your choice in the voting booth.
- ▶ You cannot lose your benefits or be evicted for voting.
- ▶ You can vote even if you have felony convictions.

VOTING IS YOUR RIGHT!

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