



October 2, 2026

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
102 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
271 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon
1214 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Lawler
324 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lateefah Simon
1023 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Kean
251 Cannon House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Wilson
1436 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Dingell, Fitzpatrick, Scanlon, Lawler, Simon, Kean, and Wilson:

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) works to create a world where individuals with Down syndrome thrive. We write today in strong support of H.Res. 1586, a resolution to recognize and honor the 27th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.*

In *Olmstead v. L.C.* (1999), the Supreme Court found that the unjustified segregation of individuals with disabilities in institutions is discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The Court recognized that “confinement in an institution severely diminishes the everyday life activities of individuals, including family relations and social contacts, work options, economic independence, educational advancement, and cultural enrichment.” *Olmstead* also affirmed the integration mandate — grounded in the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act — which requires states to provide services to people with disabilities in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs.

The integration mandate protects the right to community living and has shaped disability policy for over two decades. Enforcement of the mandate has promoted the expansion of community



living options and home and community-based services while reducing unnecessary institutionalization. For individuals with Down syndrome, these services support the ability to live, learn, and work in their communities. We applaud your leadership in honoring the *Olmstead* decision and its critical importance to community integration for individuals with disabilities.

NDSS is proud to support H.Res. 1586 and we urge all Members of the House to join in cosponsoring this bipartisan resolution. We stand ready to work with you and your colleagues to protect and support community integration for the Down syndrome and broader disability community. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kandi Pickard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, looping "O" at the end.

Kandi Pickard
CEO
National Down Syndrome Society