



Ensuring Nationwide Access to a Better Life Experience (ENABLE) Act (S. 627/H.R. 1436)

Legislative Request

Please cosponsor the Ensuring Nationwide Access to a Better Life Experience (ENABLE) Act (S. 627/H.R. 1436), which will make permanent 3 critical ABLE account provisions from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that would otherwise expire in 2025.

Background

Originally created as a result of the 2014 Stephen Beck Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act, named after former NDSS board member Stephen Beck Jr., ABLE accounts are an important tool for individuals with disabilities to save money and achieve greater financial independence. Currently, individuals with disabilities can only have assets up to \$2,000 or face jeopardizing their access to critical benefits such as SSI, SSDI, and Medicaid. ABLE accounts allow individuals with disabilities to save up to the annual maximum contribution limit, exempt from federal means-tested benefits program determinations, and use those funds for expenses related to the disability of the account owner.

Bill Summary

Introduced by Senators Schmitt (R – MO) and Van Hollen (D – MD) and Representatives Smucker (R – PA) and Beyer (D – VA), this bill will make permanent provisions for ABLE accounts that were passed by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 that would otherwise expire in 2025. The ENABLE Act will make permanent the 3 provisions below, which gives qualified beneficiaries the ability to work, earn, and save for their futures.

1. Increased contributions for beneficiaries who are employed: An employed beneficiary is allowed to make an additional contribution to their ABLE account as long as the contribution does not exceed the prior year's federal poverty level for a one-person household (\$15,060 in 2024) or the beneficiary's annual compensation.
2. ABLE Saver's Credit: Qualified beneficiaries are eligible to receive a nonrefundable saver's credit for up to \$1,000.
3. 529 to ABLE Rollover: Qualified beneficiaries can roll over 529 education savings accounts into ABLE accounts penalty free if the contributions are less than or equal to the annual ABLE contribution limit.

Important Information

- The bill has broad bipartisan support in both chambers of Congress
- The bill is estimated to only cost \$8M over 10 years
- The bill has been endorsed by several disability advocacy groups as well as key stakeholders in the ABLE industry
- The bill will positively impact the over 8 million Americans with disabilities who are currently eligible for ABLE accounts

For more information, please contact Anna Fedewa, National Down Syndrome Society Senior Manager of Government Relations at afedewa@ndss.org