



Feb. 24, 2015

Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee  
135 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee  
437 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy:

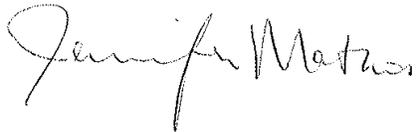
The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Rights Task Force submits this letter urging the Judiciary Committee to vote for confirmation of Loretta Lynch as United States Attorney General. CCD is a coalition of national consumer, advocacy, provider, and professional organizations working together with and on behalf of the millions of children and adults with disabilities and their families living in the United States. CCD advocates for national public policy that ensures full equality, self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

We believe that Ms. Lynch's extensive experience serving as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, as well as a partner in the private sector, and her impressive record make her a superb choice for Attorney General. As a federal prosecutor, Ms. Lynch pursued significant cases addressing violent crime and narcotics offenses as well as prosecuting human trafficking, exploitation of children, terrorism, cybercrime, financial fraud, hate crimes, and public corruption. Ms. Lynch has been twice confirmed by the Senate as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, and her nomination for Attorney General is supported by lawyers across the political spectrum, and by law enforcement and civil rights groups alike.

The leadership of the Justice Department has tremendous importance for people with disabilities. The Department plays a critical role in protecting our rights and enforcing disability rights laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Department's settlement agreements with states across the country implementing the ADA's "integration mandate" have afforded many thousands of people with disabilities better lives with the opportunity to live, work and receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate. The Department has also done important work to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities to accessible transportation, reasonable accommodations in standardized testing, equal opportunities in education, and parental rights, among other things. It is important that the Department's leadership have a strong commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for all Americans, including Americans with disabilities. We believe that Ms. Lynch is an excellent candidate to lead the Department.

We strongly support the nomination of Loretta Lynch and urge you to confirm her swiftly so that the Department's enforcement functions may continue as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Mathis  
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law



Mark Richert  
American Foundation for the Blind



Curt Decker  
National Disability Rights Network



Sandy Finucane  
Epilepsy Foundation of America

Co-Chairs, CCD Rights Task Force