





## ALABAMA DISABILITIES ADVOCACY PROGRAM August 16, 2013

The Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program (ADAP) is part of the nationwide federally mandated protection and advocacy (P&A) system. ADAP's mission is to provide quality, legally based advocacy services to Alabamians with disabilities in order to protect, promote and expand their rights.

Find Us On The Web www.adap.net

## **Voter ID Law - Request for Comments**

As many of you may have read or heard, the State of Alabama has passed a new Voter ID law that will come into effect at the next general election for State and Federal Officers, in November, 2014. To be permitted to vote, you must possess and present one of a short list of photo ID's. These include a valid Driver's License, NonDriver's License ID card, or Alabama Voter ID card, Passport, photographic Governmental ID card, College or University photo ID card, US military photo ID card, or a tribal photo ID card. If you do not already possess an ID on that list, there is a process to secure a free Voter ID card from the Secretary of State or the local County Board of Registrar's Office. Alternatively, you can get a NonDriver ID card at your local DMV office.

As a part of that law, the Alabama Secretary of State has been given the task of implementing the new law and has submitted rules which interpret and will govern the actual law in practice. ADAP has been asked to submit comments to the proposed rules. In addition, any individual may submit their own comments independently.

If you wish to exercise this option, you may post your comments directly to the Alabama Secretary of State at the following email address: VoterID@sos.alabama.gov
Your direct responses to the Secretary of State are due not later than September 4, 2013. or by mail to:

Jean Brown Chief Legal Advisor Office of the Secretary of State 600 Dexter Avenue, Suite S-105 Montgomery, AL 36130.

The full text of the new statute as amended is located here:

http://www.acca-online.org/legis\_news/2011\_bills/act2011-673.pdf

The proposed rules are located here:

http://www.sos.alabama.gov/downloads/press/17-9-30 Regs 6-28-13.pdf

As a part of ADAP's ongoing responsibility to advocate and protect individuals with physical and mental disabilities, we intend to submit comments and are seeking your input in formulating our comments. However, to better inform us of the appropriate response, we seek input from you in formulating this. As a consequence, we encourage you to fill out and return the short survey. As always, we encourage you in becoming involved in the electoral process in exercising your right to vote and to have your voice heard. Thanks in advance.

William Van Der Pol, Jr. Staff Attorney, Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program



## HAVE PRESENTATION. WILL TRAVEL.

Does your agency or group need a speaker for an upcoming meeting? ADAP provides education and training on a wide variety of topics including the Americans with Disabilities Act, Medicaid waivers, guardianships, special education, general disability rights, and transition services for youth who will soon become adults. We can also speak on specifically requested, disability-related topics. If you are interested in making arrangements for ADAP to come speak at one of your meetings, contact Anita Davidson

at (205) 348-5107 or email her at akdavidson@adap.ua.edu



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