

**Public Law 106-402**  
**October 30, 2000**

**An Act**  
**To improve service systems for individuals with developmental disabilities, and for other purposes.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**(a) Short Title.** — This Act may be cited as the “Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000”

**114 STAT. 1680 — (b) Purpose** — The purpose of this title is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, through culturally competent programs authorized under this title, including specifically—

(1) State Councils on Developmental Disabilities in each State to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities.

**114 STAT. 1681 — (c) Policy** — It is the policy of the United States that all programs, projects, and activities receiving assistance under this title shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the principles that—

(6) recruitment efforts in disciplines related to developmental disabilities relating to pre-service training, community training, practice, administration, and policymaking must focus on bringing larger numbers of racial and ethnic minorities into the disciplines in order to provide appropriate skills, knowledge, role models, and sufficient personnel to address the growing needs of an increasingly diverse population;

**114 STAT. 1683 — (7) Culturally Competent** —The term “culturally competent”, used with respect to services, supports, or other assistance, means services, supports, or other assistance that is conducted or

provided in a manner that is responsive to the beliefs, interpersonal styles, attitudes, language, and behaviors of individuals who are receiving the services, supports, or other assistance, and in a manner that has the greatest likelihood of ensuring their maximum participation in the program involved.

**114 STAT. 1685 — (15) Inclusion —** The term “inclusion”, used with respect to individuals with developmental disabilities, means the acceptance and encouragement of the presence and participation of individuals with developmental disabilities, by individuals without disabilities, in social, educational, work, and community activities, that enables individuals with developmental disabilities to—

- (A) have friendships and relationships with individuals and families of their own choice;
- (B) live in homes close to community resources, with regular contact with individuals without disabilities in their communities;
- (C) enjoy full access to and active participation in the same community activities and types of employment as individuals without disabilities; and
- (D) take full advantage of their integration into the same community resources as individuals without disabilities, living, learning, working, and enjoying life in regular contact with individuals without disabilities.

**114 STAT. 1688 — (32) Unserved/Underserved —** The term “unserved and underserved” includes populations such as individuals from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds, disadvantaged individuals, individuals with limited English proficiency, individuals from underserved geographic areas (rural or urban), and specific groups of individuals within the population of individuals with developmental disabilities, including individuals who require assistive technology in order to participate in and contribute to community life.

#### **Other options to consider that are not included in Statute**

- Ethnic, cultural and disability groups that typically do not receive services and supports because of language or cultural barriers;
- People whose voices are not heard because we don’t ask;
- People who are not listened to because they are such a small percentage of the population; or
- People who are isolated from the mainstream.