



The Honorable Bob Casey
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

January 28, 2019

Dear Senator Casey:

It is with great enthusiasm that the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) expresses support for passage of the Disability Employment Incentive Act (DEIA).

ANCOR is a national trade association for disability service providers, representing over 1,600 private providers of disability community services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and 55 state provider associations. Collectively, ANCOR members support over one million individuals with disabilities. ANCOR's mission is to advance the ability of our members in supporting people with I/DD to fully participate in their communities.

We believe that employment of people with disabilities should be a top Congressional and Administration priority and we are pleased to see your leadership of this important work. The creative but effective approach of the DEIA using tax credits to incentivize greater hiring of people with disabilities is a strategy we believe will begin to effectively address the dire statistics around disability employment.

One of the greatest challenges in providing services to individuals with I/DD is securing enough employers to provide meaningful employment opportunities for the individuals we support. We believe that once employers are encouraged to increase their hiring of people with disabilities, that the retainment will follow as they experience the impressive skillset and professionalism of the disability workforce. Not only do we fully support this bill, but we will be supportive of additional efforts to simplify the tax credit process and ensure employers are optimizing the helpful tax credit incentives.

Thank you for your leadership on the important issue of disability employment. As you know, the high unemployment rate of people with disabilities has remained stagnant for decades and we believe bills like the DEIA are practical and thoughtful solutions to a long-term problem that needs to be immediately addressed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Meek". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Meek
Director of Legislative Affairs
ANCOR