

May 8, 2023

Senator Tim Kaine 231 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kaine,

The National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)\* writes to thank you for sponsoring the Fair Housing Improvement Act, S.1267. This piece of legislation will work to help individuals with disabilities find and maintain housing by preventing housing providers from discriminating based on the source of income.

NDRN and the nationwide network of P&A agencies work daily to protect and advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities. We believe that affordable and accessible housing is crucial for people with disabilities to be fully integrated into their communities. Discrimination based on source of income has often served as an impediment to securing affordable and accessible housing.

People with disabilities are often negatively impacted by housing discrimination. Some people with disabilities receive aid in the form of housing vouchers and social security benefits which they rely on to afford housing. This reliance often results in source of income discrimination. Enactment of The Fair Housing Improvement Act would be an important step towards preventing discrimination based on a renter's type of income. Passage of this legislation will make it more likely for individuals with disabilities to find affordable and accessible housing that they can obtain using housing vouchers or social security benefits.

Again, NDRN applauds the introduction of this important piece of legislation. We look forward to working with you to enact the bill. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Claire Stanley, Public Policy Analyst, at <a href="mailto:Claire.stanley@ndrn.org">Claire.stanley@ndrn.org</a>

Sincerely,

Marlene Sallo

**Executive Director** 

National Disability Rights Network

\*NDRN is the non-profit membership association of Protection and Advocacy (P&A) agencies located in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States Territories. In addition, there is a P&A affiliated with the Native American Consortium which includes the Hopi, Navajo, and San Juan Southern Paiute Nations in the Four Corners region of the Southwest.

P&A agencies are authorized under various federal statutes to provide legal representation and related advocacy services, and to investigate abuse and neglect of individuals with disabilities in a variety of settings. The P&A Network comprises the nation's largest provider of legally based advocacy services for persons with disabilities. NDRN and the P&A Network advocate for many people with disabilities on housing related issues.