

Health Care for All Americans Now

Alex :

Happy Christmas! Happy 1994!

We appreciate you!

Justin and Yoshiko

1994

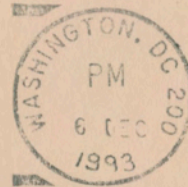
Keeping the Promise

Together

Justin and Yoshiko Dart
Kyoko Okubo Konoka Izumi

JUSTIN DART, JR.

907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024



Dr. Alexander Vachon
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Robert Dole
141 Senate Hart Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510



UNITED STATES SENATE
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOB DOLE
KANSAS

July 7, 1995

Dear Justin,

Thanks very much for your letter. I was delighted to learn you have contacted several Mayors who say they are having problems with ADA. I look forward to further reports from you of the nature of those problems and how they are solved.

In my view, your action is exactly the kind of initiative I hoped my remarks would provoke--by both the disability community and by state and local governments and business. No doubt about it, ADA can be a win/win for everyone, if we are willing to work together and apply commonsense.

As always, if I can be helpful, do not hesitate to let me know.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Bob Dole, consisting of a large, stylized 'B' followed by a diagonal stroke.

BOB DOLE

The Honorable Justin Dart
907 6th Street, S.W.
Apartment 516C
Washington, D.C. 20024

JUSTIN AND YOSHIKO DART

907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
202/488-7684

HARRIS POLL of corporate executives, July 2: ADA should not be changed, 70%; should be weakened, 9%; should be strengthened, 8%; should be repealed, 3%; is worth the cost of implementation, 82%; is not worth the cost of implementation, 5%.

July 4, 1995

Hon. Bob Dole
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

THANK YOU FOR WRITING TO ME clarifying the references to the ADA in your June 17th speech to the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I appreciate your guidance to reach out to local government. I have already spoken with two mayors and several persons at the association of mayors. I will attempt to promote increased outreach and cooperation in every community. As you say, we've got to move beyond the "horror stories," and get down to the "daily, unglamorous work of implementing ADA" in a way that is good for communities, good for businesses and good for people with disabilities. I believe that if all parties can approach problems with empathy, flexibility and determination, we can achieve the goals of ADA without excessive litigation and expense – and without amendments.

SENATOR, I KNOW IN MY HEART THAT YOU WOULD NEVER willingly be recorded as the Senate Majority Leader – or the President – who presided over weakening amendments to the citizenship of people with disabilities. But I am profoundly concerned about other forces that threaten everything you and I and thousands have struggled decades to achieve.

AFTER MILLENNIUMS OF OUTCAST STATUS, ADA gave people with disabilities a fragile foothold on the mainland of humanity. But now, only five years later, there is a massive backlash of ancient prejudice. The same folks who opposed the Act in 1990 have launched a vicious campaign of anti-ADA propaganda that dominates the public media. They advocate amendments that would turn ADA into a Jim Crow for "cripples" law – partial equality for some of us, enforced as a local option. Back to second class citizenship, legalized by the Congress of the United States.

THE TRUTH IS THAT ADA IS WORKING as you intended, to effect voluntary change in millions of minds, public facilities and places of employment. The truth is that, while the

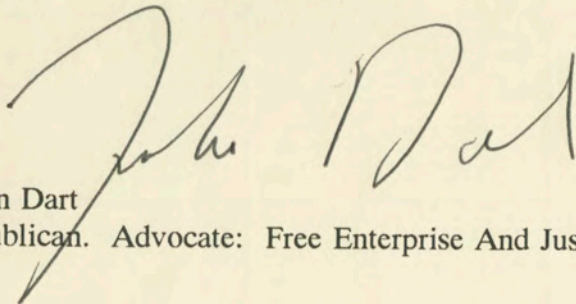
EQUAL ACCESS TO THE AMERICAN DREAM

accumulated problems of 60 centuries have not been solved in 60 months, the long hard march from welfare to work, from back room to community, has started. The truth is that eliminating discrimination, like eliminating the deficit, will profit every American a thousand fold. But most often the truth is hidden by a smoke screen of misinformation, out-of-context anecdotes and predictions of disasters that never quite occur.

THE WORLD IS WATCHING. If the full access to culture mandated by the ADA is perceived to be politically or economically impractical, decision makers in this country and every other nation will say, "America tried equality for 'the disabled,' why try it again?" Hundreds of millions in future generations, including members of your family and mine, would be condemned to continued decades, perhaps a century of unjust, unwanted dependency and segregation. People with disabilities in many other nations would suffer far more serious consequences: continued outcast status, beggary and early death from lack of the most basic necessities of life. The productivity, the prosperity, the quality of every culture and family would be diminished.

FOR MORE THAN 26 YEARS YOU HAVE BEEN OUR CHAMPION in Washington. You have participated in the creation of every law and program that is positive for people with disabilities. The ADA would not have passed without you. Recently, you authored the first serious U.S. government initiative to address the holocaust of human rights violations faced by people with disabilities in other nations. I and millions owe you a debt of gratitude that we can never repay.

WE NEED YOUR LEADERSHIP NOW MORE THAN EVER. I hope you will be able to meet soon with me and a few colleague representatives of the disability community to discuss the situation of the ADA and other historic challenges. We will cooperate 100% to effect harmonious, cost effective implementation of the ADA. We will participate in change necessary to achieve an America of free enterprise and justice for all. But we will fight with all of our strength any change that weakens our ability to fulfill our rights and responsibilities as American citizens. We know you will be with us in that fight. We look forward to meeting and working with you. God bless you and yours.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Justin Dart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Justin Dart
Republican. Advocate: Free Enterprise And Justice For All.

Memorandum

Date: October 16, 1993

To: Senator Dole

From: Alec Vachon

Re: Letter to Justin Dart

Attached letter for your signature kills three birds:

- * responds to letter he hand delivered to you on Thursday concerning health care reform (attached). Justin also told me very disturbing personal stories -- apparently neither of his daughters has medical insurance, and he pays a hugh premium (\$16,000/year?);
- * thanks him for his support of your human rights bill. He wrote you in this regard on July 20th (attached);
- * commends his leadership of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. (In truth, Committee has improved, but still something of a mess.) Dart announced June 1st he would resign December 1st, or sooner if replacement was selected (see attached press release). So far, no official word, but Tony Coehlo is frequently mentioned.

BOB DOLE
KANSAS
141 SENATE HART BUILDING
(202) 224-6521

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
RULES

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1601

October 16, 1993

The Honorable Justin Dart, Jr.
Chairman
President's Committee on Employment of
People with Disabilities
907 6th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Justin,

Thank you for your letter on health care reform. I fully agree with your sentiments. We must provide health security for all Americans, based on principles of choice, cost containment, and quality. I know first hand the uncertainty of being able to afford necessary medical care, and am committed to removing that fear for others.

I also appreciate your support for my bill on the protection of the human rights of people with disabilities through American foreign policy. This measure would recognize that discrimination against people with disabilities is a rights violation, and to be included in the State Department's annual country reports on human rights practices. As Dr. Vachon has explained to you, a request to include discrimination against people with disabilities in these reports was contained in this year's Foreign Operations appropriations conference report. I am preparing a letter to Secretary Christopher in this regard, and continue to explore other legislative vehicles to make this a permanent requirement.

As you prepare to step down as Chairman of the President's Committee, let me commend your leadership. You have reinvigorated the Committee, and set it on a most constructive course in the post-ADA era. Your successor will have a tough standard to meet.

If I can be helpful in any respect in your future endeavors, please let me know.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

JUSTIN DART, JR.

907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
202-488-7684

*Thank you for your
long years of support
for people with
disabilities!*

October 4, 1993

Hon. Robert Dole - Delivered By Hand

Dear Senator Dole:

I respectfully urge you to support President Clinton's appeal for universal health care that embodies the fundamental principles of democracy.

As a longtime disability rights advocate, I am painfully aware of the need for health care reform in America. Our health system is the most expensive in the world, a major contributor to our national debt. Millions of our citizens are not covered by health insurance, and we die younger than the people of many other nations. Millions of people with disabilities are forced to accept poverty, unemployment, welfare and even institutionalization, because that is the only practical way they can get health care.

The time has come for America to rise above politics and business as usual. We must unite - Democrats, Republicans and all who love the American dream - to create a health care system based on our common belief in the sacred value of each human life.

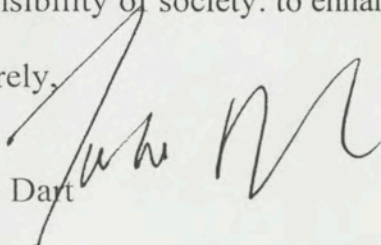
We must enact a law that guarantees comprehensive, quality, affordable, lifetime health services to every American, regardless of preexisting condition, economic status or employment. Costs must be controlled by eliminating bureaucracy, paperwork, fraud, abuse, unnecessary procedures and inflationary pricing, and by each of us taking the responsibility to pay our fair share. Quality must be improved by systematically providing the best available care to meet all the basic health needs of all the people. Consumers must be empowered to choose their providers and treatments. Consumers, providers and government must take decisive action to prevent illness and disability.

We must eliminate discrimination against people with disabilities in our health care system. They must have primary care, rehabilitation, equipment and long term support, including personal care assistance, designed to meet their individual needs to live in the productive mainstream. They too must have the right to make their own health care choices, and they must be protected from forced treatment and forced isolation. Our health care must reflect the letter and the spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Volunteerism and do good rhetoric have not worked. Political band-aids and concessions to pacify vested interests will not work. America needs a law that guarantees every single person the best, the most efficient, affordable and democratic health care within our resources, and we need that law now. Anything less is a failure of the first responsibility of society: to enhance life. I will do everything in my power to assist you.

Sincerely,

Justin Dart



*Delivered
10/04/93*

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL AMERICANS NOW



THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON
EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1331 F STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-1107
(202) 376-6200 VOICE (202) 376-6205 TDD (202) 376-6219 FAX

CHAIRMAN
JUSTIN DART

July 20, 1993

JD

Dear Senator Dole

Congratulations on the
Disability Rights in American
Foreign Policy Act of 1993,
Magnificent! I appreciate
your leadership, and that
of Alexander Vachon. Please
let me know how I
can support.

Justin Dart

DIGNITY, EQUALITY, INDEPENDENCE THROUGH EMPLOYMENT

1331 F Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1107
202-376-6200 (Voice)
202-376-6205 (TDD)
202-376-6219 (Fax)



President's Committee on Employment
of People with Disabilities

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Dina Dorich
202-376-6200

**JUSTIN DART RESIGNS AS CHAIR OF PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON
EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

(Washington, DC, June 3, 1993) Today, Justin Dart, Jr. asked the President to replace him as Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities by December 1. Dart, who was appointed by President Bush in 1989, said he felt that there had been substantial progress toward initiating "people first" policies at his agency, and that he wanted more time to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities.

He praised President Clinton's support for the ADA, his disability related appointments, and his efforts to involve disability community leaders in White House policy decisions like health care reform. Dart told the President, "Your cooperation with my agency and with me personally has been outstanding. You have reached out to us; you have responded to us; you have not tried to limit us."

"I resign at this time principally because I feel a profound responsibility to focus all of my energy as a full time advocate for the equality of people with disabilities on the national and international levels," Dart said. He called for America to "unite in sacrificial effort to overcome the forces that pander

-more-

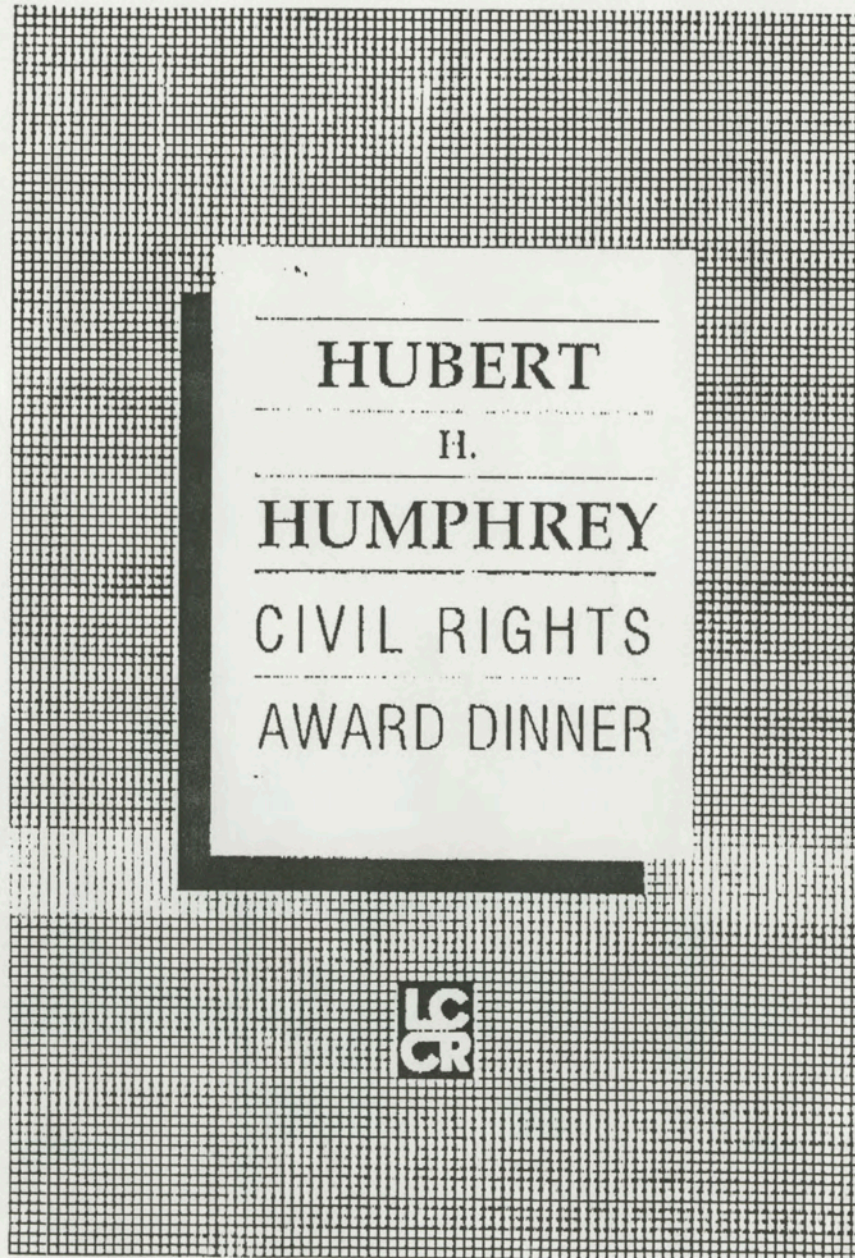
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to our fears, to pay our debts and to make significant investments in the empowerment of every citizen, including citizens with disabilities, to live the magnificent potential of an age of science and free enterprise." He called the situation of the world's more than half a billion people with disabilities an "obscene holocaust," and said, "I cannot live with my conscience if I fail to accept my full personal share of our responsibility to keep the promise of ADA to America and to the world."

A long time disability rights advocate, Dart has held five presidential, one congressional and five gubernatorial appointments in the area of disability policy, serving under both Republicans and Democrats. During the last ten years he has played a leading role in developing and advocating for national disability rights initiatives, particularly the ADA, visiting each of the 50 states at least four times.

In 1990 Dart appeared on the dais with President Bush when he signed the ADA. On May 11 of this year, he was a recipient of the Hubert Humphrey Award for civil rights leadership. On that occasion, keynote speaker President Clinton praised his work "as Chair of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, and leader in making the Americans with Disabilities Act come to life."

-30-





*Hubert H. Humphrey Civil Rights Award Dinner
Tuesday, May 11, 1993
The Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill*

PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Benjamin L. Hooks
Chairperson, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

INVOCATION

DINNER

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTES

Ralph G. Neas
Executive Director, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

AWARD PRESENTATIONS BY:

Hon. Tony Coelho
Hon. Carol Moseley-Braun
Hon. Esteban Torres

ACCEPTANCES BY:

Justin Dart
Dorothy Height
Raul Yzaguirre

BENEDICTION AND CLOSING



JUSTIN DART

During the last 10 years, Justin Dart has played a leading role in the development of and advocacy for a national disability policy, particularly the Americans With Disabilities Act, traveling to 50 states at least four times seeking input and urging united advocacy on full civil rights protections for people with disabilities. Currently serving as Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People With Disabilities, appointed by former President Bush in 1989, Justin has been named to five presidential, one congressional and five gubernatorial appointments in the area of disability policy. In his role as Chairperson of the President's Committee, he has continued to meet with the business and disability communities urging full compliance with ADA. Born in Chicago, in 1930, Justin Dart has been advocating for civil rights since joining the NAACP in 1952 in Houston, Texas. He founded the first organization to promote racial integration of the then segregated University of Houston. He has advocated for the rights of students, women, minorities and persons with disabilities in Mexico, Japan, Viet Nam and the United States. In 1968, Justin married Yoshiko Saji Dart, who has played a leading partnership role in all of his subsequent activities. They have operated private independence and employment oriented programs for persons with and without disabilities in their home since 1968. In 1982, he created the Barbara Jordan medals, given annually to public media entities in Texas. Justin has authored numerous articles and papers on disability policy.

JUSTICE FOR ALL TRUTH TEAM '95

MARK SMITH: 754 NORTH PRESIDENT STREET, SUITE 2, JACKSON, MS 39202, 601/969-0601 V/TDD, 969-1662 FAX.
TARI SUSAN HARTMAN: 6380 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 125, LOS ANGELES, CA 90048, 310/578-5955 V/TDD, 578-6065 FAX.
JUSTIN DART: 907 6TH STREET, S.W., #516C, WASHINGTON, DC 20024, 202/488-7684, 484-1370 TDD, 863-0010 FAX.
FRED FAY: 2054 MAIN STREET, CONCORD, MA 01742, 503/371-0992, justice@tnet.com E-MAIL

May 30, 1995

Dear Alex:

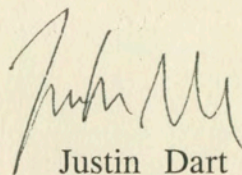
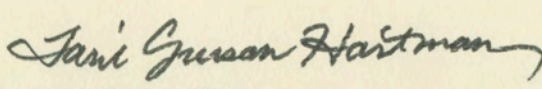
As you know, we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the ADA on July 26. At the same time there are continued attacks on the law by those who advocate repeal or amendment. For the next few months there will be increased media and public focus on the ADA. It is vital that we take this opportunity to tell the nation what our movement and ADA really is.

People have enormous respect for your leadership for justice over the years. We would very much appreciate your writing some brief remarks on the ADA - up to 200 words - what it means to you, its accomplishments so far, its success stories, its great potential for the future, what people can do to overcome current problems and to ensure harmonious implementation of the law. If you don't have time to write new material, perhaps you could send us an appropriate writing or speech you already have - a longer one is fine - or we could do a short taped interview.

Your words would be extremely helpful as we prepare press releases, statements for the media and for various commemorative articles.

We would appreciate having your statement and a black and white or color photo by June 15.

Thank you!

 
Justin Dart Tari Susan Hartman

For information, call Tari Susan Hartman: 310/578-5955 (V/TDD), 310/578-6065 FAX.
Fax or mail statements to Yoshiko Dart: 202/863-0010, 907 6th Street S.W. Apt. 516C,
Washington, D.C. 20024

JUSTICE FOR ALL

THE COMMITTEE FOR UNITED ACTION '95. BECKY OGLE: Project: AccessAbility, 625 SLATERS LANE, SUITE 200, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-1171,
703/836-6263, 703/836-6730 FAX, JUSTIN OR YOSHIKO DART: 907 6TH STREET, S.W., #516C, WASHINGTON, DC 20024, 202/488-7684,
202/484-1370 TDD, 202/863-0010 FAX, FRED FAY: 2054 MAIN STREET, CONCORD, MA 01742, 508/371-0992

May 1, 1995

The Honorable Robert Dole

Dear Senator Dole:

On Easter Sunday the Washington Post published a front page article: "Disabilities Act Failing to Achieve Workplace Goals - Landmark Law Rarely Helps Disabled People Seeking Jobs." The ADA is not failing! I enclose my personal response to the Post.

The Post implies that the ADA is flawed because its employment provisions, in force only 34 months for large businesses and 10 months for midsize businesses, have not created instant jobs for people with disabilities, and because some people who may not be covered by the law file claims. It implies that the ADA is a failure because it has not, in a few months, overcome all human abuse of social responsibility and all the attitudinal and physical barriers to people with disabilities that have accumulated during uncounted millennia of massive misinformation and devastating discrimination. By these same standards free speech, free enterprise and the Christian, Jewish and Muslim religions should have been junked long ago.

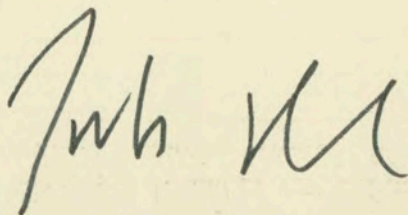
ADA IS A SUCCESS! Just the simple knowledge that it exists is profoundly changing the attitudes of leaders in every field: business, government, education, sports, and arts. Increasing thousands of public and private entities have plans under way to comply with the law. Gradually, the public is becoming aware. We who have disabilities rejoice. We have been admitted to the human race! We are equal Americans! We begin to build the confidence to break the ancient chains of dependency and to risk the world of work and community.

Former President Bush has estimated that excluding people with disabilities from the mainstream costs American families and taxpayers almost \$200 billion each year. The human costs are incalculable. The modest investments required by the ADA will pay for themselves hundreds of times. Welfare, taxes and deficits will be reduced. Every family will prosper.

Senator, we are 49 million Americans with disabilities, plus our families and advocates. We appreciate your magnificent support for the ADA in the past. We need your leadership now more than ever. My colleagues and I will be contacting your staff about meetings. We will work with you in every way possible for harmonious, cost effective implementation of the ADA. We will fight any change that weakens our fundamental rights as equal citizens.

Join us to keep the sacred pledge: Liberty and Justice for All.

Sincerely,



Justin Dart

Former Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities in the Bush and Clinton administrations. Former Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration in the Reagan administration.

JUSTIN AND YOSHIKO DART

907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
202/488-7684

April 17, 1995

To: Alexander Vachon

From: Justin Dart

Thank you for calling me on Saturday. I think it is important to dialogue informally about the current issues. The public dialogue is polarized and distorted by the perceived demands of poll driven politics.

We as the opinion leader nation - the symbol of humanity's fragile experiment with democracy - are making decisions that will have profound impact on every human being in the 21st century and beyond. If we succeed to create a government, a society that fulfills the magnificent potential of science and democracy, we will achieve a quality of life that is beyond the wildest imagination of utopian fiction. Our failure would give entirely new dimensions to the concepts of immorality and tragedy.

I believe we must create families, governments and cultures that are dominated by the concepts of scientific reasoning, and by the principles of equal opportunity, free enterprise democracy.

I believe that success depends on each one of us - each American - taking full personal responsibility for human rights, productivity, health care, education, welfare - in our families, our neighborhoods, our governments. It won't do any good for me to blame Newt Gingrich, Bill Clinton or the "special interests," if I fail in my personal responsibilities. I agonize over those responsibilities at this time of historic decision.

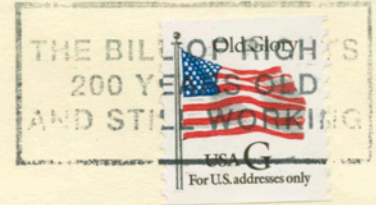
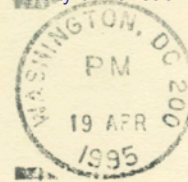
I appreciate your personal passion for what you do.

I will cooperate in any way possible with you and the Senator to achieve our common goals.

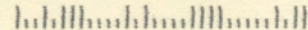
God bless you.

JUSTIN DART, JR.

**907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024**



Dr. Alexander Vachon
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Robert Dole
141. Senate Hart Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510



JUSTIN DART, JR.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
202/488-7684, 484-1370 TDD, 863-0010 FAX

April 16 was Easter Sunday. Would it not have been more appropriate for the Post to run a front page story entitled, "Christianity Failing to Achieve Founder's Goals."? Of course not. Humanity is making progress. It is measured in millenniums, not months.

April 18, 1995

The Washington Post

To the Editor:

To many people The Washington Post is the responsible voice of the capital of democracy. That is why I am depressed by Jay Mathews' April 16th front page article on the Americans With Disabilities Act. You cite some unremarkable statistics, four highly untypical lawsuits and a few out of context statements by disability community leaders -and then **you make the Grand Canyon leap to the conclusion that the ADA is "Failing to Achieve Workplace Goals," that it "Rarely Helps Disabled People Seeking Jobs."**

As evidence you report that "Since the employment provisions of the ADA went into effect in 1992, more than a third of the complaints filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission have come from employees with back pain (19.5%), emotional problems (11.4%) and ailments caused by alcoholism and other substance abuse (3.6%)." You imply that those conditions are not real disabilities, and that cases concerning them are likely to constitute abuses of the law. Two days later in your excellent "Health" section, you state that "In any one year, 50 percent of all working Americans have low back pain." And you speak of "the reality of back pain - relentless, excruciating, all-encompassing. The kind of pain that takes your breath away and knocks you to the floor and ruins your life." Americans with psychiatric disabilities probably form the largest segment of the disability community, and suffer the most vicious discrimination. My mother and my brother, who suffered from depression, took their own lives. Has anyone ever disputed that alcoholism and other substance abuse can cause severe disabilities?

Is everyone, then, who claims a back pain, an emotional or an alcohol problem covered by the ADA? Of course not. Are there abuses of the ADA? Are there frivolous claims and lawsuits? Of course. Every new law is tested to define limits. But even after the testing period is over, there will still be abuses of the ADA. Democracy has never been as simple as authoritarian regimentation or war-lord, devil-take-the-hindmost anarchy. The rights to freedom of speech and freedom of enterprise are horribly abused thousands of times every day, but I don't see the Post declaring them failures. Are the rights of people with disabilities of a lesser value?

You point out that 85% of people filing EEOC ADA complaints already have jobs, "a sign that few disabled people have found the new act very helpful." This conclusion is bizarre. The EEOC statistics cover large businesses for a period of 30 months, midsize businesses for only six months. They do not cover people who got jobs, people who were encouraged by ADA to train or apply for jobs, or employers who made accommodations for people who might get jobs. For most untrained people with severe disabilities it would take longer than the period covered by the statistics to apply for and complete vocational services.

Elsewhere in your article you report that only 40% of people with disabilities have any substantial knowledge of the ADA. How could the other 60% possibly complain about infringement of their ADA rights? You completely ignore the fact that people who already have jobs are far more likely to know how to access the EEOC process than are people who have never been employed and are applying for jobs. **You completely ignore the facts that thousands of people with disabilities are still prevented by lack of transportation, public access and personal assistance services from getting anywhere near a job site, and that millions are intimidated by fear of losing poverty-based medical and economic benefits.**

Your article lacks any sense of history. Modern science has made it possible for millions of people to survive previously fatal conditions and live for decades, with the absolutely proven potential to be competitively employed, to participate fully in their communities, to achieve lives of quality. FDR, Bob Dole, Thomas Eagleton. Yet this magnificent potential remains substantially unfulfilled. **Progress is impeded by a massive residue of the discriminatory attitudes and practices that have, throughout all recorded history, relegated people with disabilities to less than animal status.**

Seventy percent of working age Americans with disabilities remain unemployed. Millions are almost totally segregated from the mainstream of society. President Bush estimated that this costs American families and taxpayers almost \$200 billion each year. The human costs are incalculable.

And so in 1990 we passed the ADA. It is a well written and researched law. Its definition of disability and many of its concepts are based on 22 years of experience implementing rights conferred by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Nobody has gone bankrupt because of that law. There has been no explosion of abuse or litigation. These things will not occur because of the ADA.

The ADA is the world's first comprehensive civil rights law for people with disabilities, a landmark in the history of human development. My God, can you even begin to understand what that means to me and 49 million Americans like me, to more than half of a billion of the world's most oppressed people, to billions in future generations? After thousands of years of rejection every waking hour of every day, we are declared to be equal members of the human race! By the United States of America!

My spirit soars! I am a certified American! Almost every lawyer, every teacher, every leader of government, business and the media knows that I am an American with American rights. Thousands of businesses and communities are quietly undertaking to implement, at least to avoid penalties for violating, those rights. Every day more average citizens become aware. Consciously or unconsciously they begin to adjust attitudes and actions. I and millions are treated differently in an infinity of subtle ways. People with and without disabilities have begun, **just begun**, to overcome fear, prejudice, paternalism, pity, misinformation. It will take decades, perhaps centuries to eliminate all the attitudes that cause rejection, to achieve full equality in employment and full participation in the culture. But what a grand beginning!

You choose to ignore all of this. **You choose to ignore the fundamental nature of change in human affairs. One hundred and thirty years after the abolition of slavery, thirty one years after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, African Americans still battle to overcome the effects of discrimination. Humans still struggle to live the Ten Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount and the Koran.**

Is it responsible media, does it meet the most elementary standards of high school journalism, is it honest, to suggest that the ADA is a failure because it has not accomplished in a few months what the world's great religions and governments have been unable to do in thousands of years?

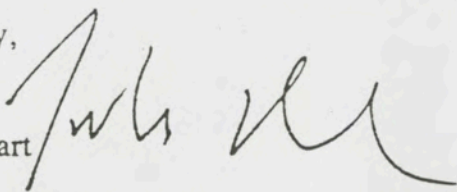
April 16 was Easter Sunday. Would it not have been more appropriate for the Post to run a front page story entitled, "Christianity Failing to Achieve Founder's Goals."? Of course not. Humanity is making progress. It is measured in millenniums, not months.

Consider your responsibility! What does it mean for the future of humanity, for the future of your family, when the leaders of America and the representatives of every nation read in **THE WASHINGTON POST** that the ADA is not working? Did you ever hear of the "self-fulfilling prophecy?"

The world is watching. Give ADA and humanity a chance.

Sincerely,

Justin Dart

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Justin Dart', written over a horizontal line.

Former Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities in the Bush and Clinton administrations. Former Commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration in the Reagan administration. Member of the Reagan appointed National Council on Disability during the time it produced the original draft of the ADA.

JUSTIN AND YOSHIKO DART

907 6TH STREET, S.W., APT. 516C

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024

202/488-7684

July 4, 1995

Alexander

Happy Independence Day!

I enclose my letter to
Senator Dole. I think it is
entirely positive. I have
included the material about
contesting the mayors, as
you suggested.

I hope there can be
a meeting with the

EQUAL ACCESS TO THE AMERICAN DREAM

Senator that will include
a few disability community
representatives and myself.

I appreciate your arranging
an ADA birthday statement
from the Senator. I
look forward to seeing it.

Best love you.

Jack

EXCERPT FROM SENATOR DOLE'S ADDRESS
63RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF MAYORS, MIAMI, FLORIDA
SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1995

We have only taken care of mandates that are going to happen in the future prospectively. We need to go back and take a look at mandates that are imposed on you right now, and still being imposed on you right now, from legislation passed before we passed unfunded mandates. And some of them may be good. Don't misunderstand me. I happen to believe the government does a lot of good things. Some may be helpful, there may be a great benefit to your consumers and people who live in the cities and the urban areas because of some of the federal mandates. But why don't we review the mandates.

I was talking this morning about the American Disabilities Act, an act that I helped pass through the Congress. And maybe we've gone too far in some areas. And I have asked the mayors to give me a list of areas that they believe we have made some ridiculous demands on cities without any real benefit for those who may be disabled. That was not the intent of the law. And I think if that's going to be changed we ought to go back and take a look at it. [Applause]

So we are going to take a look at existing requirements and consider revision or repeal. In addition to the ADA, which happened to be brought up, there is also the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. Who could be opposed to clean water or safe water. Nobody that I know of. In fact, there has been some stuff in the news about it just in the last couple of days. But there are burdensome programs passed by Congress.

To: Alex Vachon
Fr: Justin Dart
~~228-8952~~
228-1245

VIRGINIA/METRO

End discrimination of disabled, he says

By Virginia Churn
Times-Dispatch staff writer

Justin Dart Jr. was gathering evidence here this week on discrimination against the disabled.

He will use it, he said, to persuade Congress that the nation needs legislation that would do for the disabled what the Civil Rights Act of 1964 did for blacks and women.

Dart drew national headlines in November when he was forced to resign as commissioner of the federal Rehabilitation Services Administration, after appearing before a congressional committee and complaining about government paternalism and inflexibility in the federal system.

Pushing for the legislation on behalf of the disabled — the proposed Americans with Disabilities Act of 1988 — is part of his job as co-chairman of a national Task Force on the Rights and Empowerment of Americans with Disabilities.

Dart, who is a millionaire, has been an advocate of the disabled for more than 30 years. He started Experiments in Independent Living in 1964 in Japan, and he and his Japanese wife have been foster parents to 77 disabled youngsters.

Dart, from Texas, also has run the foreign markets for Dart Industries, a concern founded by his father.

"Disabled Americans are 'still subject to massive discrimination which results in unconscionable injustice to millions of individuals, an unconscionable moral and economic costs to the nation," Dart said.

"Above all we must unite our community" of those who have disabilities and their allies, he declared.

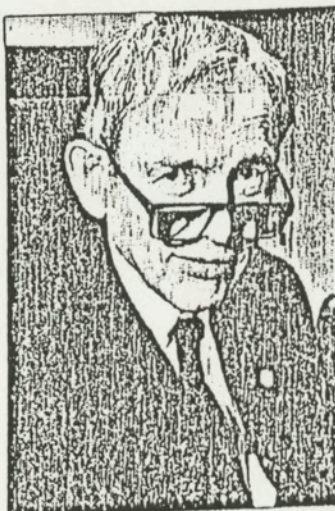
Dart is a soft-spoken, frail-looking man whose glasses slip down on his nose. He was stricken by polio in 1948, at age 18, and uses a wheelchair.

He was in Richmond for a Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services program, and he was taking notes on problems mentioned by Virginia groups for the disabled — such as a lack of lifts for mass transit buses in Norfolk, noted by Edmond Turner, president of Handicaps Unlimited of Virginia.

Jamie Ruppman of Vienna, speaking for the Virginia State Society of Autism, said autistic people in Northern Virginia have transportation services as long as they are dependent. But once they are gainfully employed, he said, they lose the transit option.

Cards were provided so the nearly 40 participants could tell Dart about examples of alleged discrimination.

Dart said he hopes to get "boxloads, truckloads," of those cards to take to



Staff photo

Justin Dart Jr.

Gathering evidence

Congress because "there are still people in Washington who do not believe there are disabled Americans who are subject to serious discrimination," he said.

Virginia is the fourteenth state Dart has visited on this project; he intends to visit all of the states by October. He's found, he said, instances of discrimination in housing, public service, and employment.

There is 60 percent to 70 percent unemployment for those with disabilities who are considered employable, he said.

The proposed Americans with Disabilities Act, introduced in Congress in April by a bipartisan group, was a key recommendation of the National Council on the Handicapped in its 1986 report.

The legislation would prohibit discrimination on the basis of handicap in employment, housing, public accommodations, travel, communications and in state and local government activities.

A joint House and Senate hearing on the proposal is set for Aug. 2.

The disabled will never have more than leftover rights and leftover resources, Dart said, until the nation makes a legal statement that people with disabilities are equal people "everywhere, every day, just like anyone else."

He urges the disabled to be involved in the democratic process. He is a Republican but urges disabled people and their allies to support the party of their choice, to vote, volunteer, contribute to political campaigns and run for office.

Dart targets civil rights for disabled

By Felyicia Reid
News staff writer

A wheelchair-bound Birmingham man has to pull himself up three flights of stairs in the county courthouse where he remains all day with no restrooms available to him.

A hospital refuses to allow an interpreter to accompany a deaf accident victim into the emergency room.

The school that a 17-year-old boy with Down's syndrome attends is closed. The boy's mother is told the school system can't place him until they place all of the regular students first.

Another student must remain in a middle school longer than he should, because there isn't a high school equipped to handle his disability.

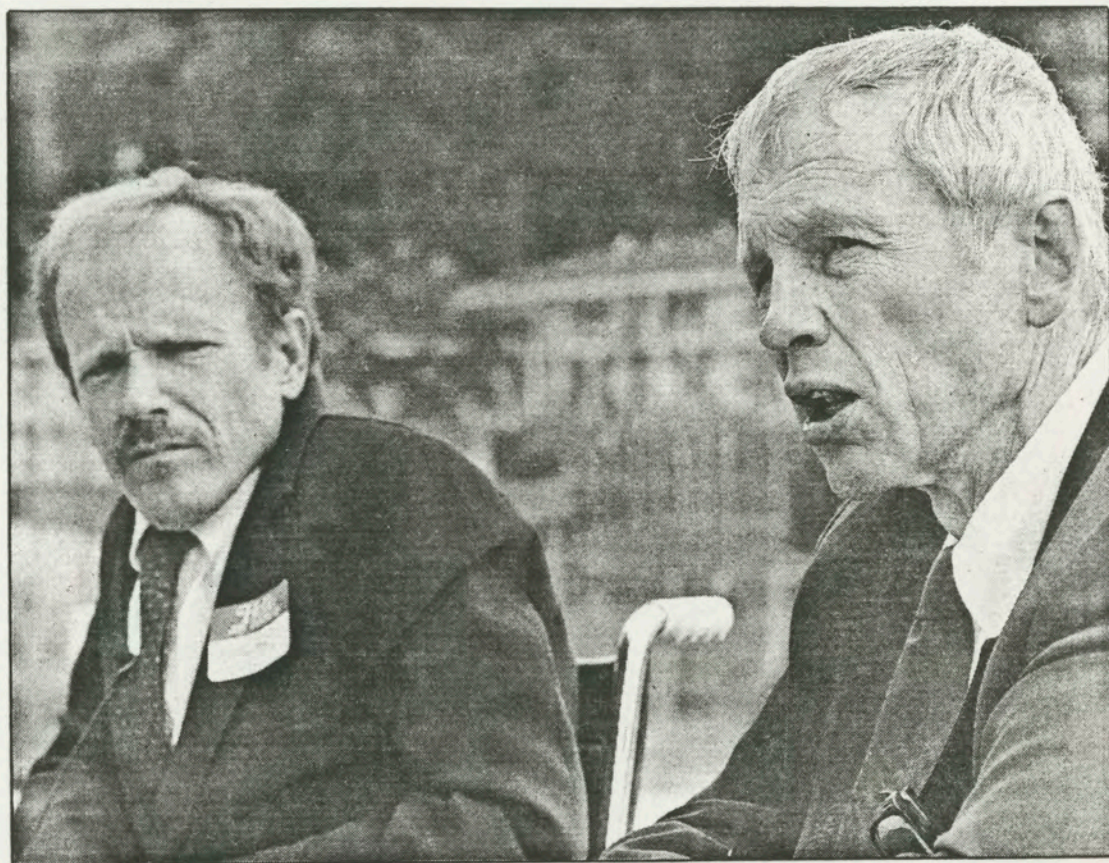
Their stories are a sampling of those Birmingham residents shared publicly at the request of disability rights advocate Justin W. Dart on Tuesday afternoon.

"We've got to tell our stories and demand our civil rights just like everyone else," Dart said to more than 250 disabled citizens, parents, and service providers who attended the hearing at Highland Racquet Club at 3300 Highland Ave. South to share their personal accounts of discrimination in Birmingham.

Dart, the millionaire founder of Japan Tupperware, formerly was commissioner of the Federal Rehabilitation Services Administration.

A victim of polio, he was forced to resign last November after stepping forward in congressional hearings to complain about the inflexibility of the system and the domineering relationship that he felt as a government employee.

He's now traveling across the coun-



NEWS STAFF PHOTO/MARK ALMOND

Dart, right, joined by Michael Ray of Alabama Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities.

try to gather evidence and to present it to Congress, encouraging federal lawmakers to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1988.

The bill, which was introduced in the Senate in April, prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in employment, housing, travel, communications and activities of state and local governments.

Dart said the bill will be introduced in a joint session of Congress in September.

"This act extends full civil rights coverage to all peoples," said Dart. "People with disabilities will no longer receive leftover rights ... leftover jobs ... leftover resources."

In a news conference held at Highland Racquet Club before the hearings,

Dart told about his days in college when he had to be carried up and down steps 20 to 30 times a day to attend classes.

He also said he was told that he couldn't take a class because the teacher didn't want someone in a wheelchair in her classroom.

"We've come a long way from the time that I was disabled," said Dart.

Local advocates for rights for the disabled attended the hearings and said they were pleased with the bill.

"This is no doubt the most important piece of legislation since the Civil Rights Act," said Michael Roy, president of the Alabama Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities. "We are entitled."

Roy was one of the key protestors in

efforts to get Metro Area Express running after a labor dispute stopped the operation of vans used by the disabled for public transportation.

Buses and the special vans didn't run for five days, stranding many disabled who use the system as their primary means of transportation.

Barbara Crozier, executive assistant to the Attorney General's office and head of the Alabama Disabled Persons Protection Commission, said her office receives phone calls daily giving accounts of discrimination. She said the inequalities even occur on the state and federal levels where agencies comply with the bare minimum standards.

"We're one of the largest minorities, over 36 million, in America," she said. "So we do have a voice."

ARKANSAS GAZETTE Saturday, July 9, 1988...

3A

Task force leader tells the disabled to get tough

By James Scudder
GAZETTE STAFF

People with disabilities should get tough if they expect to get equal rights, a national advocate for the handicapped said Friday in Little Rock.

Justin Dart Jr. of Fort Davis, Texas, chairman of a Senate subcommittee task force, made the remark at the beginning of a public hearing on the needs of the disabled at the Arkansas School for the Blind. About 150 disabled people and their advocates attended.

Dart, who contracted polio when he was 18 and is wheelchair-bound, is chairman of the Task Force on the Rights and Empowerment of Americans With Disabilities.

He said he would conduct hearings in all 50 states and that the Arkansas hearing Friday was his 18th.

'All-out struggle'

"We must join together at this time in an all-out struggle to pass an effective Americans With Disabilities Act," Dart said.

The measure, now in committee in Congress, would prohibit discrimination on the basis of handi-

cap in employment, housing, public accommodations, travel, communications and activities of state and local governments.

"As we escalate our advocacy for full rights and full services, we are going to hear again the question, 'Can America afford these rights and services?'" Dart said. He called for an "entire new way of thinking about the resources that must be allocated to our rights. You no longer debate whether it costs too much but whether it constitutes equality."

Statements of discrimination

At the end of the hearing, Dart collected written statements from disabled people citing specific instances of discrimination.

Several disabled people who spoke said Arkansas was far behind in making facilities and services accessible to the handicapped.

Delbert O. Lewis, a planning specialist for the state Human Services Department who is wheelchair-bound, said the Little Rock Board of Directors had been insensitive to the handicapped and has waived a number of rules and regulations in favor of the real estate and construction industries.



Barbara Northup signs for Justin Dart at a hearing on the needs of the disabled Friday in Little Rock.

—Staff Photo by Bill Snow