

Disability Matters – #Advocacy Matters

Tuesday, July 3, 2018

ABLE Act Age Adjustment

We all celebrated the ABLE Act, which is also known as the Achieving a Better Life Experience Act, when it was signed into law in December of 2014. To remind your listeners, the ABLE Act amended a section of the IRS code to allow certain persons with disabilities to save money tax free to cover disability-related expenses. In addition, these resources are not taken into consideration when determining eligibility for Supplemental Social Security and Medicaid.

Unfortunately, Congress set an age limit on who could set up ABLE accounts. Eligibility was limited to a person who had acquired their disability prior to the age 26.

Disability Rights Pennsylvania is one of at least 159 organizations calling on Congress to increase the age threshold from age 26 to age 46. In other words, we want individuals who acquired their disability prior to the age of 46 to be eligible for ABLE accounts.

This is good public policy for many reasons. It opens the eligibility door to more individuals with disabilities who could benefit from the ABLE Act. It also would significantly expand the pool of individuals who can open ABLE accounts. There has been some concern nationally

that not enough individuals with disabilities are opening ABLE accounts.

The bills numbers are S.817 and H.R. 1874. Both bills are called the ABLE Age Adjustment Act.

You can find more information about The ABLE Age Adjustment Act on our website at disabilityrightspa.org.

#AdvocacyMatters and so does your help in finding more cosponsors for the ABLE Age Adjustment Act.