



News Release

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to cover the Governor's appearance

GOV. MCAULIFFE TO SPEAK AT INDEPENDENT LIVING CONFERENCE

(RICHMOND, Va.) — Governor Terry McAuliffe will speak at noon on Oct. 8 at a training conference for disability advocates.

The Governor will address the conference at the Hilton Richmond Hotel and Spa/Short Pump, 12042 W. Broad St. Following his remarks, he will visit the onsite ADA Legacy Tour bus, which raises awareness about the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and educates future generations of advocates.

The two-day “Independent Living ... Owing Our Future” conference will also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Virginians with Disabilities Act, which was marked earlier this year.

“Virginians with disabilities have been working many years toward achieving integration into their communities through advocacy and education,” Governor McAuliffe said. “As I work to build a new Virginia economy, these men and women are vital to ensuring that the Commonwealth remains a leader in productivity and innovation.”

Conference attendees will include individuals with disabilities, some of whom were instrumental in the passage of Virginia's disability law, and representatives of the Commonwealth's disability services agencies and its 17 Centers for Independent Living. CILs are non-residential, community-based nonprofit organizations designed and operated by people with disabilities.

“Our networks of CILs, the Virginians with Disabilities Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act have made our communities more accessible. We have made remarkable strides to fully integrate people into the social and economic life of their communities, but more work lies ahead,” Governor McAuliffe said.

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The Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with community partners, provides and advocates for resources and services to improve the employment, quality of life, security, and independence of older Virginians, Virginians with disabilities, and their families. For more information, visit www.vadars.org or follow DARS on Facebook at www.facebook.com/vadars or Twitter at @vadars.