



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Office of the Governor

COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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RESOLUTION 2021-1

WHEREAS, the Alaska Human Rights Law prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in places of public accommodation, AS 18.80 *et seq.*; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Human Rights Law prohibits the State of Alaska and its political subdivisions from refusing or denying any person any services, goods, facilities, advantages, or privileges because of physical or mental disability, AS 18.80.255; and,

WHEREAS, “physical or mental disability” is defined in the Alaska Human Rights Law as a condition that may require the use of a prosthesis, special equipment for mobility, or service animal, AS 18.80.300(14)(D); and,

WHEREAS, even using some commonly available software intended to assist people with visual impairments, the State of Alaska’s executive branch websites are difficult or impossible to navigate for people with visual impairments; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska’s executive branch websites are inconsistent and effectively deny people with visual impairments from using or navigating them in ways that prohibit visually impaired people from participating in state government on equal footing with other Alaskans; and,

WHEREAS, other states have undertaken uniform and systematic changes to their websites to provide equal accessibility for people with visual impairments; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska’s Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Program reviewed website accessibility for visually impaired people, and prepared a draft statewide Accessibility of Information and Communication Technology policy to address these concerns; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights is aware that this draft is being considered by various officials in the Department of Administration for likely consideration by the Governor’s Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights:

1. fully supports the draft Accessibility of Information and Communication Technology policy that was circulated, and more importantly supports any initiatives that provide equal access to the State of Alaska's websites for visually impaired people; and,
2. calls on the Department of Administration to carefully consider the draft policy in an expedited manner, and forward it to the Governor's Office for consideration by the Governor of Alaska and his cabinet; and,
3. calls on the Governor of Alaska to implement a statewide policy providing equal access to the State of Alaska's executive branch websites for visually impaired people thereby allowing them to participate in all online aspects of state government.

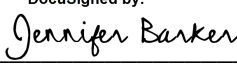
Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Office of the Governor, the Governor's cabinet members, and all independent executive branch agencies.

ADOPTED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 20th day of October, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

William Craig
Interim Chairperson
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 2021-1 is a true and accurate copy of the language adopted by the Commission on October 20, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

Jennifer Barker
Secretary
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights