

Center for American Progress



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July 17, 2006

Ms. Linda Sites and Ms. Linda Tolkan
Section 508 Coordinators
Executive Office of the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Sites and Ms. Tolkan:

I am writing to you in your roles as the officially designated Section 508 Coordinators for the Executive Office of the President. Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act requires Federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology to people with disabilities.

Unfortunately, the www.whitehouse.gov web site does not comply with Section 508. I am including printouts from several URLs at your web site include:

- The White House Home Page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/>
- The "Kids" page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>
- The "About our Government" page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/government>
- The page with information about the administration's support for Americans with Disabilities at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom/>

As 29 U.S.C. § 794d(a)(1)(B) states:

When development, procurement, maintenance, or use of electronic and information technology that meets the standards published by the Access Board under paragraph (2) would impose an undue burden, the Federal department or agency shall provide individuals with disabilities covered by paragraph (1) with the information and data involved by an alternative means of access that allows the individual to use the information and data.

I would appreciate a response from you as to the cause of your noncompliance with this important law.

Yours sincerely,

Carl Malamud
Senior Fellow/CTO
Center for American Progress