

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1041

Recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the date of enactment  
of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 7, 2018

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. HARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

---

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the date  
of enactment of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.

Whereas August 12, 2018, marks the 50th anniversary of the  
date of enactment of the Architectural Barriers Act of  
1968 (referred to in this preamble as the “ABA”);

Whereas the ABA was the first measure passed by Congress  
to require buildings and facilities to be accessible to indi-  
viduals with physical disabilities and served as an impor-  
tant forerunner to the Americans with Disabilities Act of  
1990;

Whereas Congress worked in a bipartisan manner to craft  
legislation to make Federal buildings accessible to indi-  
viduals with disabilities;

Whereas both Houses of Congress unanimously passed the ABA;

Whereas President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the ABA into law on August 12, 1968, with the goal of ending the “needless and cruel discrimination” inherent in the lack of access to Federal buildings for individuals with disabilities;

Whereas Congress, in 1973, established the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (the “Access Board”) to enforce accessibility standards prescribed pursuant to the ABA;

Whereas the ABA was amended in 1976 to cover the buildings and facilities of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority’s Metrorail System, a valuable resource for millions of area residents and tourists;

Whereas the Access Board issued its most recent Guidelines (codified at 36 C.F.R. part 1191) to implement the ABA on July 23, 2004, and—

(1) the United States Postal Service adopted those Guidelines as its ABA Accessibility Standards effective October 1, 2005;

(2) the General Services Administration adopted those Guidelines as its ABA Accessibility Standards effective May 8, 2006; and

(3) the Department of Defense adopted those Guidelines as its ABA Accessibility Standards effective October 31, 2008;

Whereas, in 2015, there were almost 265,000 career Federal employees with disabilities; and

Whereas, in 2017, nearly 13 percent of the civilian population in the United States reported having a disability: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) recognizes and honors the 50th anniversary  
3       of the date of enactment of the Architectural Bar-  
4       riers Act of 1968;

5           (2) salutes everyone whose efforts contributed  
6       to the enactment of the Architectural Barriers Act  
7       of 1968;

8           (3) reaffirms its support of the Architectural  
9       Barriers Act of 1968;

10          (4) encourages all entities responsible for the  
11       design and construction of Federal and federally  
12       funded buildings and facilities to go beyond the min-  
13       imum requirements of the Architectural Barriers Act  
14       of 1968 and the accessibility standards promulgated  
15       pursuant to it; and

16          (5) pledges to continue to work to identify and  
17       remove barriers that prevent all people of the United  
18       States from having equal access to buildings and fa-  
19       cilities covered by the Architectural Barriers Act of  
20       1968.

○