



NH Governor's Commission on Disability



Lisa K. Hinson-Hatz – ADA Reflections and a Personal Story

The ADA legislation of 30 years ago was led by my home state Senator. Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa, led the charge to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities. Little did I know, way back then, how important this legislation would be and how it would impact so many lives. When I entered the VR field 20 years ago, it was “the” foundation for all the work we do as a VR agency. We want individuals with disabilities to have equal access to buildings, books, transportation and any recreational activity possible, among other things. I believe the ADA paved the way for a lot of investments by our businesses into their workplaces, so that every employee can have equal access. I am very proud that my home state Senator took such a leap in 1990 and enacted the ADA. We still have work to do but this helped a great deal.

End of document. July 2020. *Lisa Hinson-Hatz is Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education, GCD Commission Member, Ex Officio.*