



1-844-DIS-VOTE  
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## ***Disability Rights and Voting: A Briefing for Policymakers and Election Officials***

April 12, 2021, 12 noon - 1 PM

***Hosted by the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition and our co-sponsors.***

### **Briefing Agenda**

#### **1. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Barbara Beckert, Disability Rights Wisconsin  
Jenny Neugart, Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

#### **2. Disability Rights and Voting: A national perspective**

Michelle Bishop, Voter Access & Engagement Manager - National Disability Rights Network

#### **3. Disability Rights and Voting: Wisconsin Perspective**

- Barbara Beckert, Disability Rights Wisconsin
- Denise Jess, Wisconsin Council of the Blind & Visually Impaired
- Kyle Kleist, Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin
- Jenny Neugart, Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Janet Zander, Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.

**Summary:** This briefing will address the barriers experienced by voters with disabilities and older adults, and discuss the federal and state laws and policies that protect voter rights, and support accessible and inclusive elections. As policymakers and election officials consider changes to Wisconsin voting laws and policies, we hope this briefing and the resource list will serve as resources to help you to safeguard and the rights of voters with disabilities and older adults.

## **Bio Sketch: Michelle Bishop, National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)**

As the NDRN Voter Access & Engagement Manager, Michelle Bishop leads a team to coordinate NDRN's national network around voting rights, voter engagement, and access to the vote for people with disabilities in every US state, district, and territory. She has provided public testimony on multiple occasions to the United States Congress, US Commission on Civil Rights, and the US Election Assistance Commission. Michelle is a member of the Election Verification Network, the National Council on Independent Living Board of Director's Voting Rights Subcommittee, the Circle of Advisors for Vote at Home, and the national steering committees for National Voter Registration Day, National Disability Voter Registration Week, and the REV Up campaign, and is a guest lecturer on disability rights and voting rights for Columbia University and Washington University in St. Louis. She works in coalition with the civil rights community in Washington, DC to ensure strong federal policy regarding voting rights and election administration.

### **Briefing Logistics**

1. For accessibility reasons, this briefing is live captioned. Click on the Live Transcript CC icon to use captioning, or to turn it off. Then click "show subtitle". Click "view full transcript" to see the full captioning stream.
2. ASL Interpreters are available. You may pin the interpreter. If you are using the interpreter and need to communicate directly, please note that in the Q & A.
3. If you have questions, please enter them in the Q & A. We will do our best to answer as many questions as time permits. If there are more questions than time, we will follow up after the briefing.

## **Sponsored by [Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition](#)**

*A project of Disability Rights Wisconsin and  
Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities*

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Wisconsin Family Ties  
Wisconsin Milkweed Alliance, Inc.

### **About the Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition**

*The WDVC is a non-partisan effort to help ensure full participation in the entire electoral process of voters with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places. The Coalition is coordinated by Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities. Members include people with disabilities, community agencies, and other partners.*