

Media Contact:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Disability Rights Tennessee celebrates Disability Voting Rights Week.

The campaign is focused on education and action for the over 38 million eligible voters with disabilities and is hosted by the American Association of People with Disabilities' REV UP Campaign.

NASHVILLE, TN- Disability Rights Tennessee, the Protection & Advocacy (P&A) Agency for the state of Tennessee is joining in the celebration of Disability Voting Rights Week, September 11-15. Disability Voting Rights Week (DVRW) is a national, nonpartisan initiative to build the power and presence of the disability vote. This initiative is led by the American Association of People with Disabilities' (AAPD) REV UP Voting Campaign.

Disability Voting Rights Week is celebrated annually in September and focuses on bringing awareness to the rights and registration of over <u>38 million eligible voters with disabilities</u>. Nationally, people with disabilities voted at a <u>3.6% lower rate</u> than nondisabled voters in the 2022 midterm elections. It is important to acknowledge that individuals with disabilities make up a large part of our population, with nearly one in four Americans having some form of disability, according to the CDC.

During Disability Voting Rights Week, Disability Rights Tennessee is working to register and educate voters with disabilities and our community. It is important that everyone who is eligible to vote takes advantage of the opportunity to be heard. We invite all Tennesseans to join us in building the power of our vote during Disability Voting Rights Week.

There are a number of resources out there for Tennessee voters. To check voter registration status in the state of Tennessee, <u>click here.</u> If you are a first-time voter or have not registered yet, <u>click here to register.</u> To review Disability Rights Tennessee's resources on voting, <u>click here.</u> To review the basics of your right to vote, <u>click here.</u> To review what's on your ballot, <u>click here.</u>

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Disability Rights Tennessee (DRT) is the designated Protection & Advocacy Agency for Tennessee. DRT Provides free legal advocacy services and resources to protect the rights of Tennesseans with disabilities. For 45 years, DRT has served over 50,000 people through direct services, education, and systemic advocacy. For more information, visit www.bisabilityRightsTN.org.