

Hi, My name is Lee Ky, and I do live in Reedley, California. I am here to express my concern regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act and how it is being used toward all businesses. I understand that all businesses must be accessible for all customers. I have been disabled all my life, and I am grateful for the President George Bush who recognized the needs for accessibility for the disabled community when he signed ADA into the law in 1990. Public buildings should have accessible entrance doors for both wheelchairs and stroller users. Public facilities that have an eating area and restrooms should be accessible with tables wide enough and high enough for a wheelchair to fit. The eating area should not be designated just for the disabled people. An eating area should not have a sign that say for wheelchair only. Accessible buildings allow people with disabilities to become more independent and self-sufficient. As for me, I appreciate businesses that have accessible facility. But personally it does not matter, If the grab bar is at 37 inches or 32 inches on either side as long as it is providing and it is there when I need it. All business owners have to recognize the needs for all customers. For example, many businesses provide carpet or rubber mat at the entrance outside or inside to prevent able-bodied customers from slipping. Many business owners are not aware of the changes or new regulations related to ADA. Not all businesses are up to code with the ADA guidelines of the ADA regulations because due to lack of information from our city and state also federal not informing the public regarding the changes. My mother has two donut shops and has been sued at both locations for alleged ADA violations. It is not fair for business owners to receive a lawsuit package from Law Firm that is out of our city and county limits. Prior to filing a lawsuit, notification should be sent to a business if their facility is INACCESSIBLE (that mean inside of the building has obstacle or steps or the entrance into the facility is too narrow). Now that business facility is not up code with the ADA. Therefore that particular place or business should be corrected immediately with a penalty. However, my mom donuts shop in the City of Reedley was built in 2000 and do not have architecture barriers. I would know I am there. All businesses should have 30 days to correct minor violations and 120 days for constructional barriers. In my experience, the carpet or the mats have never become entangled in my wheelchairs. If the ADA regulations remain the same and require businesses to remove carpets or mats for the inconvenience of the disabled people, then the ADA will be creating a hazard for the able-bodied person. We, the disabled community, should not be able to feel segregated from the rest of society. This will create bitterness between the customer and the business. I do not need a sign to inform me that I am disabled or where I should sit. The ADA should concentrate on accessible curbs and ramps that do not wrap around the building with back door access only. Generally, when I enter through the back door, I feel like businesses are embarrassed or ashamed to associate with me because of my physical limitations. This is understandable to a point because there are a few disabled individuals, including lawyers that make it their personal mission in life to collect money from businesses that they have never been too. It seems this handful of lawyers think that they are helping the disabled community; moreover, they are separating the disabled community and the able community. The lawyers are causing's the able body community to dislike the Americans with Disability Act. This makes the rest of small business owners, who are trying to earn an honest living, look bad. Throughout my life, people in general are very helpful. When I am out and about in the community people offer their kindness to assist me. Whether I accept or decline is up to me, I also have a voice. If I need assistance, I can ask for help. I do not want business owners to cringe when they see me enter their establishment. Personal experience, I was at our down state capital and had to use restroom and I spotted a bar/restaurant and I asked if I could use the restroom. Then, they asked me, if I'm going to

buy a drink? My aid responded "No, she does not drink but need to go to the restroom." No, they did not give me permission to use the restroom. Since, ADA lawyers going suing small businesses. There are posted signs on their window "NO Public Restroom." I would like to see the ADA regulations or Federal laws to be fair and not be taken advantage of or misused by people that know the laws such as lawyers and certify access specialist person (casp). I believe our elected officials and city inspectors should inform the publics of all new laws and changes. If this unnecessary money hungry ADA lawsuits continue, many businesses will be forced to shut down and there be many empty buildings in our community because they do not have the money to pay off the lawsuit. To me, this is wrong doing and misusing of the ADA. I noticed that Governor Jerry Brown signed SB 269 which eliminate minimum statutory damages for certain minor and technical violations of the ADA. In my opinion, "Lawsuits is still a lawsuits does not matter if the amount is reduce." Thank you.