

STATE DOCUMENT



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #120

RECEIVED

JUN 5 1991

Legislative Reference
Bureau

Relating to the Accessibility of State Sponsored Meetings

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's statutes and administrative code require that all public buildings and places of employment be accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin law prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in employment programs and services provided by state government; and

WHEREAS, the United States government mandates that states receiving federal funds comply with federal equal opportunities laws and regulations applicable to any program, activity, or service delivery funded with such assistance; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Americans With Disabilities Act guaranteeing that persons with disabilities shall not be discriminated against by any public or private entity or program; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin government considers each citizen a vital resource and participant in and to the government decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin law requires that all open meetings be held in facilities accessible to persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, my administration has supported efforts to create an open and accessible state government for persons with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wisconsin Statute section 14.019, do hereby require that the State of Wisconsin, to the maximum extent possible, hold no meeting, public hearing, conference or training session, solely or jointly sponsored by any state department, agency, board or commission in any facility, public or private, that is not accessible to and usable by people with disabilities; and

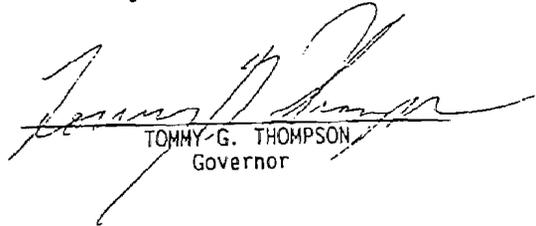
Recognizing that the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services and the Wisconsin Department of Administration have established minimum accessibility guidelines for meetings, public hearings, conferences and training sessions, I direct Wisconsin government to adopt these minimum guidelines as the state's accessibility guidelines for all meetings, public hearings, conferences and training sessions sponsored solely or jointly by state departments, agencies, boards or commissions; and

I hereby order that each state department, agency, board and commission be responsible for ensuring that, to the maximum extent possible, their meetings, public hearings, conferences and training sessions be held in facilities that meet the minimum accessibility guidelines adopted by the State of Wisconsin and, to ensure compliance, require each to designate an employe to maintain and enforce this requirement; and

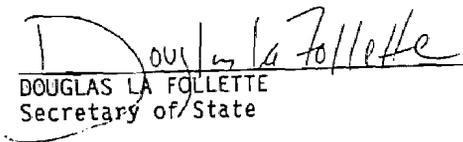
I hereby designate the Department of Administration, Office of the Disability Rights Coordinator, as the state office responsible for communicating this order to all departments, agencies, boards and commissions; coordinating compliance with this order; issuing a model accessibility policy for use by state agencies; providing technical assistance and support to state agencies; and maintaining a list of sites that meet the minimum accessibility guidelines.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this third day of June in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-one.




TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State