

## HR 4278

Assistive Technology Act of 2004

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** May 5, 2004

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 108-364.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 108-364. (Oct 25, 2004)

**Law:** 108-364 (Enacted Oct 25, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/4278>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. McKeon, Howard P. "Buck" [R-CA-25]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Boehner, John A. [R-OH-8]	R · OH		May 5, 2004
Rep. Ballenger, Cass [R-NC-10]	R · NC		May 20, 2004
Rep. Burns, Max [R-GA-12]	R · GA		May 20, 2004
Rep. Cannon, Chris [R-UT-3]	R · UT		May 20, 2004
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		May 20, 2004
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		May 20, 2004
Rep. Hoyer, Steny H. [D-MD-5]	D · MD		May 20, 2004
Rep. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA-6]	R · GA		May 20, 2004
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		May 20, 2004
Rep. Keller, Ric [R-FL-8]	R · FL		May 20, 2004
Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-5]	D · MI		May 20, 2004
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		May 20, 2004
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		May 20, 2004
Rep. McNulty, Michael R. [D-NY-21]	D · NY		May 20, 2004
Rep. Petri, Thomas E. [R-WI-6]	R · WI		May 20, 2004
Rep. Ramstad, Jim [R-MN-3]	R · MN		May 20, 2004
Rep. Towns, Edolphus [D-NY-10]	D · NY		May 20, 2004
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		May 20, 2004
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		May 20, 2004
Rep. Frost, Martin [D-TX-24]	D · TX		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. Matheson, Jim [D-UT-2]	D · UT		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. Owens, Major R. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT-At Large]	I · VT		Jun 1, 2004

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Reported by	May 13, 2004
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Sep 30, 2004

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

**(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the Senate on September 30, 2004. The summary of that version is repeated here.)**

Assistive Technology Act of 2004 - (Sec. 2) Amends the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (ATA) to reauthorize and revise ATA programs.

Revises ATA State grant programs to direct the Secretary of Education to make assistive technology (AT) grants to States to maintain comprehensive statewide programs designed to: (1) maximize the ability of individuals with disabilities, and their family members, guardians, advocates, and authorized representatives, to obtain AT; and (2) increase access to AT. (This grants program, which emphasizes addressing the AT needs of individuals with disabilities, revises and renames the current program of continuity grants for States that received funding for a limited period for technology-related assistance through establishing State administrative systems.)

Increases the minimum grant allotment amount for each State AT program.

Requires States to use portions of AT grant funds for: (1) State-level activities, including State financing system activities (which may include loan programs) to increase access to and funding for AT devices and services, as well as for programs for device reutilization, device loan, and device demonstration and information; and (2) State leadership activities (not more than 40 percent of the AT grant), including training and technical assistance (with at least five percent of the leadership portion to be used for transition assistance to individuals with disabilities), public-awareness activities, and coordination and collaboration.

Provides a flexibility option under which a State may opt to use AT grant funds to carry out any two or more of the otherwise required State-level activities. Requires a State, if it exercises such flexibility option with respect to State-level activities, to: (1) carry out each of the required State leadership activities; and (2) use not more than 30 percent of the AT grant funds to carry out State leadership activities.

Caps at ten percent the portion of AT grant funds that may be used for indirect costs.

Prohibits AT grant funds from being used as direct payment for an AT device for an individual with a disability.

Revises the ATA program of grants to States for protection and advocacy related to AT, through systems established under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. Includes the American Indian Consortium as a recipient of such program grants. Allows such systems to carry over program income generated from the grant amount for two additional fiscal years. Requires such funds to be used for activities that enhance AT accessibility awareness among individuals with disabilities and help such individuals acquire, use, or maintain AT devices or services.

Revises ATA national activities to direct the Secretary of Education to: (1) provide funds to establish and maintain a National Public Internet Site to provide individuals with disabilities and the general public with technical assistance and information on increased access to AT devices, AT services, and other disability-related resources; and (2) make competitive grants to provide various forms of technical assistance.

Revises ATA national activities. Authorizes the Secretary to award competitive grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for: (1) a national public-awareness toolkit developed through a training and technical assistance program that expands public-awareness efforts, uses appropriate accessible multimedia materials, and coordinates with State AT

programs in informing targeted individuals and entities about the availability of AT devices and services; and (2) AT research and development. Directs the Secretary to award competitive grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for: (1) a training and technical assistance program to address State-specific information requests concerning AT from entities funded under ATA and public entities not funded under ATA, disseminate certain information to targeted individuals and entities, and provide training and technical assistance to various public and private entities; (2) renovation, updating, and maintenance of the National Public Internet Site under ATA, with certain required features; and (3) data-collection and reporting assistance.

Revises ATA administrative requirements. Directs the Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services of the Department of Education, acting through the Rehabilitation Services Administration, to administer this Act.

Extends through FY 2010 the authorization of appropriations under ATA for: (1) State grants for AT and for national activities; and (2) State grants for AT-related protection and advocacy services.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Oct 25, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 25, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-364.
- **Oct 13, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Oct 8, 2004:** Mr. McKeon asked unanimous consent that the House agree to the Senate amendment. (consideration: CR H9011-9020; text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR H9012-9019)
- **Oct 8, 2004:** Resolving differences -- House actions: On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 8, 2004:** On motion that the House agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 8, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Oct 4, 2004:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 30, 2004:** Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 30, 2004:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S10186-10192)
- **Sep 30, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 30, 2004:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Jun 25, 2004:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- **Jun 15, 2004:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jun 14, 2004:** Mr. Castle moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jun 14, 2004:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3913-3920)
- **Jun 14, 2004:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4278.
- **Jun 14, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H3913-3918)
- **Jun 14, 2004:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H3913-3918)
- **Jun 14, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 1, 2004:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and the Workforce. H. Rept. 108-514.
- **Jun 1, 2004:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 294.
- **May 19, 2004:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 19, 2004:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **May 13, 2004:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 13, 2004:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **May 12, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness.
- **May 5, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **May 5, 2004:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E757)
- **May 5, 2004:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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