



1201 15th Street NW  
Suite 350  
Washington, DC 20005  
Phone 202-898-2578  
Fax 202-898-2583  
www.nasuad.org

November 20, 2013

The Honorable Robert Menendez  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
446 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Corker  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
446 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Corker:

I write today on behalf of the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD), to encourage you to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

*President*  
**Gloria Lawlah**  
Maryland

*Vice President*  
**Jay Bulot**  
Georgia

*Secretary*  
**Lora Connolly**  
California

*Treasurer*  
**Gary Jessee**  
Texas

*Immediate Past President*  
**Lance Robertson**  
Oklahoma

NASUAD represents the 56 officially designated state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities. Each of our members oversees the implementation of the Older Americans Act (OAA), and many also serve as the operating agency in their state for Medicaid waivers that serve older adults and individuals with disabilities. Together with our members, we work to design, improve, and sustain state systems delivering home and community based services and supports for people who are older or have a disability, and their caregivers.

Signed by the United States in 2009, the CRPD is an international treaty modeled on the Americans with Disabilities Act, and furthers its goals of empowering individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and integration into all aspects of society.

By ratifying the CRPD, the United States will continue to be a leader in setting the standards for ensuring the rights of individuals with disabilities, both in this country and abroad. Such leadership will both further our nation's vision for global human rights and assist the millions of people with disabilities from the United States who live, do business, and travel abroad. American citizens with disabilities should have the opportunity to benefit from a world economy that is fully accessible to all people.

NASUAD believes swift, bipartisan ratification of the CRPD is critical to the country's long-standing reputation as a global leader in non-discrimination and human rights, and to improving the lives, health, and economic opportunities for the one billion people with disabilities worldwide. Accordingly we ask you for your support and leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Martha A. Roherty  
Executive Director