

## 5/15/17 PRESS ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHO: ADAPT  
WHAT: National ADAPT Petitions Trump for Disability Rights  
WHERE: The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC  
WHEN: Monday, May 15, 2017

### **Disability Advocates Petition President Trump for Relief**

5/15/17 – Washington, D.C. Hundreds of activists from the disability rights organization ADAPT rallied at the White House today to demand that President Trump work to secure the rights of Americans with disabilities.

“President Trump is in a unique position to advocate for disabled people,” said Priya Penner. “When he was running for President, Donald Trump promised that under his watch, Americans would not die in the street for a lack of care. Many disabled people would rather die in the street than go into a nursing facility or institution to receive services, which is often the choice Americans are faced with today. Fortunately, there’s a better way, and we hope that President Trump will listen to the people.”

ADAPT issued a list of demands for the Trump Administration, including recognizing that citizens with disabilities have the same constitutional right to liberty as every American, and endorsing the Disability Integration Act, which will make the integration of disabled people a reality in America.

“There’s no asterisk on the Constitution that says you are too disabled to enjoy life, liberty, and property free of government interference,” said Bruce Darling, an organizer for ADAPT. “Yet that’s what people with disabilities experience every day in this country. President Trump can help secure the constitutional rights of millions of disabled Americans by working with our community.”

Passage of the Disability Integration Act would accomplish a longstanding goal of the Disability Community of overturning the institutional bias in Medicaid and securing community based services and supports. Despite significant advocacy by the Disability Community, no president has yet been able to achieve this goal.

ADAPT’s history, the issues we are fighting for and our activities can be followed on our web site at [www.adapt.org](http://www.adapt.org), our ADAPT Facebook page and on Twitter – look for #ADAPTandRESIST.

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