

Comment from Yim, Una

This is a Comment on the **Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (ATBCB) Proposed Rule: Information and Communication Technology Standards and Guidelines**

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Due May 28 2015, at 11:59 PM ET

Comment

May 16 2015

Re: docket number ATBCB-2015-0002

Dear Docket Access Board members:

My name is Una Yim, and I am a person with severe visual impairment. I lost my sight approximately six years ago. Life has been difficult, except for the fact that I am able to communicate with the sighted world through the use of technology and the internet. However, it is sad for me to say that progress has been slow due to the lack of a uniform standard for the technology industry.

I am extremely excited about your proposal for Guidelines which provides direction for telecommunications equipment manufacturers and service providers to comply with section 255 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. For a sighted person who recently lost her sight, it is very difficult for me to learn Braille. My sole source of communication is from technology, which, in fact, enhances the quality of my life beyond description.

The United States is the leader and champion in humanitarian causes, but the process of providing a set of guidelines for Section 255 to enhance the quality of life of millions of disabled people like myself has been needlessly arduous and prolonged. Can you imagine watching a movie without sight, and that you have no clue as to the story line ? The isolation is unbearable. On the other hand, I could enjoy and share the joy of watching a movie if the web content providers are required to provide visual description or close caption. This is just a small example of what your proposed guidelines can do for the disabled community.

I urge you to finalize your proposed Standards and Guidelines at the

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Submitter Information

Submitter Name:

Una Yim

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earliest possible opportunity because they make such a big difference in millions of peoples' lives. Time is of the essence and I submit to you that the 508/255 refresh must be finalized by the end of this year.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Regards,

Una Yim