Comment from Sermons, Sandra

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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Comment

We live in a constantly changing world. This is particularly true with respect to information technology. Today, more and more information can only be obtained by accessing such things as touch screens or kiasks. People who are blind or have low vision come from all walks of life. We are teachers, lawwyers, musicians, and government employees. While we live in a paperless environment, the reality is that our access to that informaaation is virtually non-existent. Ten years ago, if there was a stack of documentation that had to be accessed, even someone whoo had absolutely no familiarity with a person who is blind would understand that they couldn't just slide the stack of papers across the table. Obviously, some sort of accommodation had to be made. Whether it was providing a reader, scanner... Today, there is no paper. Things should be golden. Thee point of this example is that we actually have a worse time of it, since trying to convey that software or websites are not compatible with screenreading software is much harder to do. The Federal Government has always been the leader in setingg standards and hiring people with disabilities. These days, it is still the trendsetter, only in a negative way. This process has been interminable and still we wait.
I would like to urge the immediate promulgation of the Section 508 regulations. The only thing that we need more than promulgation is enforcement.

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