



**NATIONAL CENTER**

30 Mansell Court, Suite 108  
Roswell, GA 30076

phone: 770-604-9500

fax: 770-604-9898

email: [info@ndscenter.org](mailto:info@ndscenter.org)

[www.ndscenter.org](http://www.ndscenter.org)

## **National Down Syndrome Congress Applauds Inclusion of Disability Funding in Government Appropriations Package**

**For Immediate Release:**

**12/20/2022**

**Contact:**

**Cyrus Huncharek**

**214-502-7903**

**[cyrus@ndscenter.org](mailto:cyrus@ndscenter.org)**

Roswell, GA – The National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC) applauds the release of a bipartisan government funding [package](#) and urges swift passage by Congress. The package includes major investments in programs that impact people with Down syndrome and other disabilities.

“We thank Congress for their work on this important funding package and for the critical investment in programs benefitting people with Down syndrome and other disabilities,” said Jordan Kough, executive director of the National Down Syndrome Congress. “Congress should take up this package and pass it into law swiftly.”

The package contains several provisions important to the Down syndrome community including increased funding for special education, an extension of the Money Follows the Person program so people have a choice of where they live and receive services, and policies to increase competitive integrated employment, among others. Additionally, the package includes the bipartisan, bicameral ABLE Age Adjustment Act which would allow people who develop their disabilities before age 46 (as opposed to 26 as is currently law) to establish ABLE accounts, allowing them to save for future disability-related expenses without placing needed disability services, health care, and income support at risk. Not only will this greatly expand the number

of eligible account holders, but it will also help ensure the ABLE program remains financially viable for current account holders, many of whom have Down syndrome.

NDSC has been involved in advocacy on many of the positive provisions included in this package. We hope that Congress does not delay and gets this package over the finish line quickly so that people with Down syndrome and other disabilities can rest assured that needed investments and policies are on the way.

###

*The National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC) is the country's oldest national organization for people with Down syndrome, their families, and the professionals who work with them. We provide information, advocacy and support concerning all aspects of life for individuals with Down syndrome, and work to create a national climate in which all people will recognize and embrace the value and dignity of people with Down syndrome.*