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Governor



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Dear Task Force Members and Associates:

Here is a link to Washington State's new policy and standards requiring disability access to newly purchased/developed Information and Electronic technology.
<https://ocio.wa.gov/policies/policy-188-accessibility>. The policy also requires agencies to prioritize existing technology, develop plans for providing access, and make those plans readily available to the public.

This very substantially advances one of the Task Force's Priority Strategies.

The small working group that developed this policy reviewed and adopted the best from other states, the feds, and DOJ settlements, and added its own improvements, where the best there was could be made better. As of right now, Washington is the model.

The Task Force owes significant thanks to Ryan Leisinger from WaTech, who led this effort; Jenny Lay Flurrie and Anne Taylor from Microsoft who contributed their expertise and ideas; and Debbie Cook, from the UW Center on Technology and Disability Studies who has been advancing this issue within state government for many years, and who provided an expert knowledge of the state of the art in technology access policies.

Sincerely,

Jim Baumgart
Policy Advisor