

National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers  
Statement of Support for the  
**Community Choice Act (CCA)**  
Introduced in Congress as S. 683 and H. 1670

*NRRTS Mission:*

- *NRRTS is a professional association of committed, skilled, experienced individuals who provide Complex Rehab technology and services to people with significant postural or mobility deficits. This technology includes wheelchairs and seating systems along with other enabling technology.*
- *NRRTS helps facilitate the well-being of the consumers our Registrants serve through the persistent achievement of rigorous professional and ethical standards; and through industry cooperation and advocacy.*
- *NRRTS is committed to empowering consumer self-advocacy.*

We are aware that the technology NRRTS Registrants provide alone is not enough to assure the health and well-being of people with disabilities. Allowing individuals eligible for Nursing Facility Services or Intermediate Care Facility Services for the Mentally Retarded (ICF-MR) the opportunity to choose instead a new alternative, "Community-based Attendant Services and Supports" is the key to maximizing independence and potential to integrate into our society's mainstream.

NRRTS' supports the principles of the Community Choice Act as critically important to the disability community but also to all Americans who demand appropriate opportunity for all our citizens.

We urge passage of the Community Choice Act now because:

1. The demographics of our country are changing. More and more people with disabilities are living, and could be thriving! Reasons for these changes include:
  - a. the aging process, the graying of America,
  - b. children born with disabilities are living,
  - c. young adults, who previously would have died from accidents or illnesses, are living -- thanks to medical technology and other advances.
2. Our long-term service system must change. Created over forty years ago, it is funded mainly by Medicare and Medicaid dollars; medical dollars not originally meant to meet people's long-term care needs.
3. The money should follow the individual, not the facility or provider. A national long-term service policy should not favor any one setting over the other. It should let the users choose where services should be delivered.
4. The current system is needlessly expensive. We must explore cost-effective ways to meet people's needs.
5. Community services have been shown to be less expensive on average than institutional services, and better liked by individuals.
6. People with disabilities -- both old and young -- even those with severe mental and/or physical disabilities want services in the most integrated setting possible.

NRRTS asks all its Registrant and affiliates to support the principles of the Community Choice Act whenever the opportunity presents itself.