

## Civil Rights Restoration Act - 1987

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Simple justice requires that public funds to which all taxpayers of all races contribute, not be spent in any fashion which encourages, subsidizes, or results in racial discrimination.

These are the words of President John F. Kennedy in explaining the purpose and scope of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 have been extraordinarily effective civil rights statutes.

By prohibiting the federal funding of discrimination against minorities, women, disabled persons and senior citizens, these four statutes have desegregated much of America and provided equality of opportunity for millions of our nation's citizens.

Regrettably, because of recent Supreme Court decisions and the interpretations of these decisions by the Justice Department, there is no longer a comprehensive and effective Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 or Age Discrimination Act. The Court, by adopting the program-specific analysis, has dramatically weakened the nation's civil rights statutes. There is no longer broad coverage of these laws. Unless the discrimination is tied specifically to a federally-assisted program, race, sex, disability and age discrimination cannot be investigated or its correction required.

These decisions affect almost every recipient of federal funds, including schools, hospitals, corporations, correctional facilities, air authorities, state highway departments and municipal utilities.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act would clarify the intent of Congress with respect to these civil rights statutes. It would restore them to the broad scope and coverage that was originally intended by Congress and that has marked their administration until very recently.

### Statement

The Board of Directors of NFTS urges swift passage of the Civil Rights Restoration Act without any amendments which change the substance of the law.