

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, June 10, 2010

CONTACT: MARA LEE
(202) 225-7163

Rep. Matsui Announces Support for Markey Disability Legislation
Adds Her Name as a Co-sponsor of H.R. 3101

WASHINGTON, DC– Today, Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui (D-CA) participated in the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet Hearing on H.R. 3101, “The 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2009.” The legislation, introduced by Representative Edward J. Markey (D-MA), would help ensure access to technology and broadband for disabled Americans. Rep. Matsui announced her support for the legislation at this morning’s hearing, and will add her name as a co-sponsor later today.

“As we continue our efforts to expand broadband access to more and more Americans, disabled Americans must not be left behind. Every American – including those who are disabled– requires access to updated technologies for personal use, to compete for a job, and to be able to communicate and work in a sound environment.

“We are seeing a greater need to assist a number of our service members who are returning from the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan disabled and are seeking to return to some sense of normalcy. Access to modern technology will help them achieve that.

“Disabled Americans should have access to the same communications products and services that everyone else does.

“I applaud my good friend Congressman Markey for his leadership on providing greater technological access to disabled individuals. His legislation, H.R. 3101, would help ensure that the disabled are able to fully access and utilize broadband services and video programming devices.

“I plan to add my name today as a cosponsor of this important legislation.

“We must modernize technologies to make certain that disabled Americans are able enjoy the benefits of an increasingly diverse and innovative menu of applications and services. It is my hope that all stakeholders continue to work together to advance this legislation in an expedited fashion.”

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