

**NCIL Hill Visit
to
Congressman Wittman
July 14, 2011**

Hello, Congressman Wittman! My name is James Rapp from the disAbility Resource Center in Fredericksburg. Today, I ask for your support on the Assistive Technology Act.

Using assistive technology is an essential part of life for the people with disabilities. Six years after the 2004 amendments to the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, 20 percent of the United State Assistive Technology Programs have yet to receive the \$410,000 minimum grant award authorized in the Act. Many states have limited or no alternative finance programs.

As you see, I use a communication device which helps me to communicate with you and others. If Virginia limits the funding for assistive technology, people with disabilities, including me, would have difficult lives in the community. We would not be able to purchase the devices we need to continue to live in the community such as a wheelchair, a communication device, and a transfer chair.

Please support, advocate, and vote for Assistive Technology Act for people with disabilities! Thank you!

Sincerely,

James Rapp