

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 said that federally funded programs and facilities **could not discriminate against people with disabilities.** Officials of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) kept putting off signing the 504 regulations into law, and even tried to water them down. After four years of waiting, activists said “enough!” Protests brought together people with different disabilities for the first time. Thanks to broad local support, **San Francisco held out the longest:** after twenty-six days, occupiers emerged exhausted but jubilant because the regulations had been signed.



‘Sign 504’ button
From the collection of Ken Stein



Photograph by Anthony Tusler