

Section 504 and the ADA

Without Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, there would be no Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). The 1973 Act served as a template for the more comprehensive law passed in 1990. 504 gave ADA advocates evidence that disability rights could benefit many without adding a huge burden on society.

After the four-year wait to have Section 504 signed, those who wrote the ADA made sure that it would be signed into law within one year.

Like Section 504, the ADA dealt with many different disabilities at once rather than separating each impairment group.