



June 21, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo,

The Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) is writing in support of inclusion of the ABLE Age Adjustment Act in the SECURE 2.0 package.

MDA is the nation's leading nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the lives of individuals living with neuromuscular diseases through innovations in science and innovations in care. Since inception, MDA has invested more than \$1 billion in research grants to accelerate treatments and cures for neuromuscular disorders, making MDA the largest source of neuromuscular disease research funding in the U.S. outside of the federal government.

ABLE accounts allow individuals who acquire a qualifying disability by age 26 to save money for specific, disability-related expenses not covered by insurance without jeopardizing their eligibility for Medicaid or other benefits like SSI. The ABLE Age Adjustment Act will increase the age by which individuals must have a qualifying disability from 26 to 46, which will expand the ability of people who get diagnosed with neuromuscular diseases like ALS after age 26 to use an ABLE account to save for disability-related expenses.

ABLE accounts are a lifeline for people with disabilities who currently may not need Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, or home and community-based services, but may need them in the future as their disability progresses. Increasing the age for ABLE accounts will allow individuals diagnosed with a disability after age 26 to maintain their freedom and independence by saving money for future disability-related expenses that Medicare, Medicaid, or SSI do not cover, including complex rehabilitation technology such as power wheelchairs.

We urge the Senate Finance Committee to include the ABLE Age Adjustment Act in SECURE 2.0.

Sincerely,

Michael Lewis

Michael Lewis
Director, Disability Policy
Muscular Dystrophy Association