

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request

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Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request

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Comment from Seidell, David

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## General Comment

I am autistic, I am bipolar, I have ADHD, I have Ehler's Danlos, hypermobile type. I am raising two disabled kids, too disabled for public school and educated at home. The disability paperwork is awful. It's intimidating, it's unfriendly, it's invasive, and it's ignorant. I have a developmental disability and multiple mental health conditions - - it is impossible to complete even simple, straightforward paperwork. The CDR and especially the initial application process is painful. If "oh, yeah, you should get a lawyer, they deny everybody" is the common response to your program designed to help disabled people, something is horribly wrong. I have to approach paperwork like this or the original disability application in small, manageable pieces. Even then, it takes an hour MINIMUM for every PAGE of paperwork. Questions as invasive, sweeping, and ignorant as those included in this process take longer. They take longer and they HURT. It's like trying to fill out an exam while the building is on fire. It's like doing pushups on a hot stove. It will take me days just to make a single phone call, because it's so much effort, and it's so draining, and i have to call multiple MULTIPLE times asking for extensions. the paperwork is DAUNTING. If this process was NOT designed to screen out disabled people and leave them in the cold, to leave US in the cold and to force us to prove how desperate we are just to survive, then it's just maddeningly incompetent and ABSOLUTELY divorced from disabled people and our lived experiences. There should be NO paperwork. You should be automatically enrolled, with committees of disabled activists and experienced disabled caregivers, NOT an anonymous panel of faceless "professionals" who tell disabled people again and again and again that we're not disabled enough to get help, even if we're too disabled to even apply for that help. It's humiliating. It's unnecessary, and it's deadly. People shouldn't die waiting for some committee to sign off on our right to life.