

National Association of Blind Students

Legislative and Self-Advocacy Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2021

Start Time: 8:00 PM EST

Attendance: Elizabeth Rouse; Elizabeth Schoen; Gene Kim; Aaron Espinoza; Matthew Gip; Jeff Kaloc; Hunter Kuester; Shelbi Felter; Lindsay Kerr; Fahad Amjad; Stacie Leap

- Icebreaker: (Elizabeth Rouse) What food would you eradicate from existence if given the chance?

- Special guest Jeff Kaloc, Governmental Affairs team at NFB headquarters.

-It is best to advocate with your personal testimony and communicate with your state and Federal legislators year-round; we rally outside of Washington Seminar, too.

-We are advocating for three bills.

The Access Technology Affordability Act, which would fund a \$2,000 tax credit in order to offset the expenses associated with purchasing access technology.

The Medical Device Nonvisual Accessibility Act, which focuses on personal use devices, such as glucose monitors, blood pressure monitors, etc. Bill advocates for these devices to be made accessible out of the box.

The Transformation to Competitive Integrated *Employment* Act, which eradicates the allowance some companies maintain to pay disabled people subminimum wage.

-Elizabeth mentioned that whenever legislative alerts get sent out to the listserv, students can modify/personalize and send to respective Congressional members, copying Jeff Kaloc, Stephanie Flynt, or John Pare as noted in the alert.

-Contact information for Jeff Kaloc: jkaloc@nfb.org or 410-659-9314 ex: 2206

End Time: 8:45 PM EST