October 2021 Ride On!





Heard about the softer Ride Custom Cushion option?

The Ride Custom AccuSoft Cushion has now become a staple in Ride's range of wheelchair seating solutions. It's a softer, more forgiving custom cushion option, learn all about it <u>here</u>.

Air travel legislation needs support

Disability rights groups have banded together to encourage Congress to pass the Air Carriers Access Amendments Act (ACAAA).



The original Air Carriers Access Act (ACAA, 1986) required air carriers to provide the opportunity to preboard, timely assistance in boarding and deplaning, proper stowage of assistive devices, and appropriate seating accommodations.

"I know from personal experience that when an airline damages a wheelchair, it is more than a simple inconvenience. It was like taking my legs away from me again."

- Senator Tammy Duckworth

Most travelers with disabilities believe more needs to be done.

The Amendments Act (H.R. 1696/S. 642) would strengthen equitable access to air travel. It would allow a private right of action, as most other civil rights laws do, to give passengers with disabilities appropriate redress of their grievances. The ACAAA would also ensure that new planes are designed to accommodate the needs of people with disabilities by requiring airlines to meet defined accessibility standards including: safe and effective boarding and deplaning, visually accessible announcements, seating accommodations, lavatories, and improved stowage options for assistive devices.

How you can help:

- Take a survey about your air travel experiences here
- Reach out to your Representative. A sample letter that can be adapted to include your specific message is <u>here</u>.



"In a forest of a hundred thousand trees, no two leaves are alike. And no two journeys along the same path are alike."

-- Paulo Coelho

Fun finds / resources

• Bill Crossland fulfilled a lifelong dream: the worldwide digital release of his first feature film, "Catching Up," about a man with muscular dystrophy looking for love. He says, "The more who watch, the likelier it is I get to make more. Please check it out, share, and enjoy." Learn more and find out how to watch, <u>here</u>.



• "I decided to take an inventory of my favorite disability moments from Game Of Thrones, and explore what they can still teach us about the disability experience, now over two years after the original series ended." Read Andrew Pulrang's analysis <u>here</u>.

Thanks for reading, Your friends at Ride Designs



P.S. If you somehow missed the last newsletter, the most viewed item was a video about <u>Matt Scott</u>s wheelchair basketball story and the importance of seating to his health and career as a professional athlete. A five-time Paralympian, now a two-time gold medalist, Matt was also voted by Team USA to be the flag bearer at the closing ceremonies. Follow us on your favorite social media platform:

