



D I S C U S S I N G

Reforming the Disability Grids



Dependency on the disability system has hit record highs in recent years, reaching 13 million enrollees. With over seven million available jobs and record-low unemployment rates, now is the time to move these Americans back to work. But outdated disability rules are keeping many trapped in dependency. Rules defining the disability grid have not been updated in over 40 years and use outdated definitions of age, widening the road to dependency and making the program unsustainable for the truly needy.

Voters support reforming the disability grids to make the disability system more sustainable for the truly needy.

What messages really move them? These messages work best.

- ▶ In recent years, **disability dependency has exploded**, with enrollment reaching 13 million.
- ▶ There are nearly 7.5 million open jobs across the country, and the **unemployment rate is near a record low**.
- ▶ Disability grid **rules have not been updated in 41 years**—or since Jimmy Carter was president.
- ▶ The disability system **defines advanced age as 55 years old or older**, but the majority of voters see advanced age as 65+ years old.
- ▶ Reforming the disability system would **make it sustainable for the truly needy** who rely on the program.

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