

**HB2504** *public accommodation; disability; discrimination; sanctions*

**This bill permits courts to penalize lawyers who use abusive litigation tactics when filing lawsuits under the Arizonans with Disabilities Act (AzDA).**

This bill allows a court to look into the scheme of an attorney's practice and similar cases filed under the AzDA. If filed for the primary purpose of making money, and not increasing accessibility, a court can impose sanctions on the lawyer.

**This bill focuses on bad lawyering rather than taking civil rights away from people with disabilities.**

## The Issue:

- ♿ HB 2504 sends a message that disability rights are important, but lawyers need to do the right thing for their clients by seeking accessibility and not just monetary gain.
- ♿ HB 2504 puts into law a standard, which already exists in the *Americans with Disabilities Act* that requires a person with a disability to experience harm.
- ♿ HB 2504 maintains that a person with a disability can collect damages including money, out of pocket expenses, medical bills, and pain and suffering.
- ♿ HB 2504 explains the history of the current situation so that courts will know and understand what has happened and so that the court won't penalize nonprofit law firms or lawyers who work in good faith to help people with disabilities.
- ♿ As drafted, HB 2504 does not contain a cure period like SB1198. Any proposed language that tries to make people with disabilities wait to file a lawsuit is not the solution and will be opposed.