

I would like to see the FCC do whatever possible to mandate that accessibility for the blind and visually impaired is considered when designing a device from the beginning rather than an after-thought. If Apple was able to include excellent accessibility into their phones, other companies can do it as well. Apple has set the bar in this regard. As a minimum, all devices should have enough accessibility built into them so that a blind or visually impaired person can make and receive calls, use the menu system in its totality, send and receive email and or text messages, review their call history and contacts or phonebook, and get status information on battery life, signal strength, and whether or not roaming is active.

I for one am tired of having to spend additional money, sometimes non-trivial sums, to achieve accessibility on my cell phone devices. I firmly believe that strong FCC mandates are the only thing that can make this a reality as I don't think that most device manufacturers will do it on their own.

Thank you for your consideration

Rick Alfaro