

I am an allied medical professional and I work with clients with significant speech disabilities who have particular difficulty communicating over the telephone due to their disability but who still retain important non-verbal skills such as facial expression and gestures. Many of these people cannot use the telephone now but would be able to use Video Assisted Speech-to-Speech. I urge the FCC to mandate VID-STS. VID-STS can potentially lead to employment for many users because telephone access is generally a prerequisite to obtaining employment and carrying out job tasks.