

DRC DISABILITY RIGHTS CENTER - NH

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Disability Unscripted: 2020 Candidates on Inclusion & Accessibility Transcript of John Hickenlooper: Concord, NH March 23, 2019

<https://drcnh.org/videos/john-hickenlooper-video-campaign-inclusion-and-accessibility/>

DRC-NH Staff: With one in five Americans having a disability, I'm curious about what efforts you and your campaign have taken to reach out and employ folks with disabilities on your campaign, what efforts would you take in your administration to engage folks with disabilities and then what actions are you guys taking before each campaign stop to make sure they are fully accessible?

John Hickenlooper: Alright so the question is really about my attitude, my history my future about people with disabilities in a nutshell.

So we are ... when I got elected Governor we had a long waiting list for people who have disabilities to get support from the government. We within three years got that waiting list down to zero. We are I think one of the leaders, and the the certain specific issues like Down syndrome. We have the Global Down Syndrome Foundation is now in Colorado we've been a close partner not only for providing services and making sure that families that are dealing with a .. whatever the disability is, that they have the support from their community but also looking at how do we get more research and funding towards the places with that make the greatest difference. So autism, Down syndrome, go down that whole list so we were committed a hundred percent.

When I was in the restaurant business we worked as a partner with a couple of the different firms that provided the consulting services to businesses to make sure that when you say handicapped accessible we tried to go even beyond what the what the law said. So I have I we are supposed to be, I don't know if we have if we've missed this but we're supposed to do on these campaign stops to always be accessible disabilities accessible so as far as I know we are still doing that but I haven't checked you know.

DRC-NH Staff: Please check

JH: I will check, I promise I will check.

DRC-NH Staff: Thank you.

JH: I will just say, supporting families with disabilities sounds like an imposing cost. It turns

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out to be such a small cost to be able to deliver such a monumental difference to families that are... in some case in Colorado it was just making sure that the parents could go out to a movie once a week, right? And just made all the difference in their lives.

Candidate video fades out to informational slide

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