

1 HR155
2 137477-1
3 By Representative Gaston
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 23-FEB-12

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8 RECOGNIZING MARCH 8, 2012, AS ALABAMA
9 CROSS-DISABILITIES AWARENESS DAY IN THE HOUSE OF
10 REPRESENTATIVES.

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12 WHEREAS, United States President George H. W. Bush
13 signed the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law on
14 July 26, 1990; and

15 WHEREAS, the intent of the ADA law was to ensure the
16 equal treatment of people with disabilities and to establish a
17 clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination
18 of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

19 WHEREAS, the ADA has expanded opportunities for
20 Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing
21 perceptions, and increasing full participation in community
22 life; and

23 WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human
24 experience and in no way diminishes the rights of individuals
25 with disabilities to live independently, enjoy
26 self-determination, make choices, contribute to society, and

1 fully experience the economic, political, social, cultural,
2 and educational mainstream of American society; and

3 WHEREAS, the concept of cross-disabilities coming
4 together to celebrate our achievements is a new one, but a
5 concept that has grown out of necessity for each disability
6 group to bond and respond as one voice throughout the state;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, family members, friends, and members of the
9 community play a central role in enhancing the lives of people
10 with disabilities, especially when the family and community
11 are provided the necessary support services and public and
12 private employers are aware of the capabilities of people with
13 disabilities to be engaged in competitive work in inclusive
14 settings; and

15 WHEREAS, the goals of this state include providing
16 individuals with disabilities the opportunities and support to
17 make informed choices and decisions; live in homes and
18 communities where they can exercise their full rights and
19 responsibilities as citizens; pursue meaningful and productive
20 lives; contribute to their family, community, state, and
21 nation; have interdependent friendships and relationships with
22 others; and achieve full inclusion in society; now therefore,

23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
24 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we hereby recognize March 8,
25 2012, as Alabama Cross-Disabilities Awareness Day in the House
26 of Representatives.