

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-59

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 4, 2017

To recognize the many contributions of people with developmental disabilities, to emphasize the importance of protecting and providing access, support, and services for people with disabilities, to reaffirm the District's commitment to protecting its most vulnerable residents, and to declare the month of March 2017, as "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month" in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, developmental disabilities continue to affect more than 7 million Americans and their families;

WHEREAS, persons with a work-limiting disability continue to experience lower average wages, lower employment rates, lower labor market activity, and higher rates of poverty;

WHEREAS, we encourage all citizens to support opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to experience full access to education, housing, employment, recreational activities, and other community resources;

WHEREAS, ensuring the prospect of a fulfilling life for everyone, regardless of disability, requires the continued commitment of our entire community to protecting both access and dignity for people with disabilities;

WHEREAS, the then President of the United States proclaimed the month of March 1987, as the first "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month", speaking of the "prospect of a brighter future and greater opportunity" for people with disabilities;

WHEREAS, this month's theme for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is "Our Voices, Our Choices"; and

WHEREAS, March 2017, is the 30th anniversary of the original Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month recognition.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2017".

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the contributions of people with developmental disabilities and declares the month of March 2017, as “Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month”, as a confirmation of the District’s continued support for residents with developmental disabilities and those who support them to achieve their goals.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.