

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-31

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 7, 2023

To recognize the many contributions of people with developmental disabilities, to emphasize the importance of quality supports and services for people with disabilities, to reaffirm the District’s commitment to building thriving communities inclusive of people with and without disabilities, and to declare the month of March 2023, as “Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, over 6 million Americans have developmental disabilities, and residents with developmental disabilities are our friends, family, and neighbors in every Ward of the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, government agencies, community organizations, and individual and family leaders work together to ensure that people with developmental disabilities experience full access to education, housing, employment, recreational activities, and other community resources;

WHEREAS, we believe that inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in our communities, workplaces, and schools makes us all better off;

WHEREAS, the District is committed to recognizing that every person, regardless of disability, has gifts and talents, infinite capacity to learn and make decisions, and the capability to make important contributions to their communities if given opportunities to do so;

WHEREAS, the government of the District of Columbia, in a demonstration of its commitment to supporting District residents with developmental disabilities, expanded the eligibility of the Department on Disability Services and Developmental Disabilities Administration’s IDD and IFS Waivers to include people with developmental disabilities in addition to people with intellectual disabilities;

WHEREAS, creating inclusive, supportive, and thriving environments is everyone’s responsibility;

WHEREAS, the 2023 observance of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates 36 years of advocacy in education, employment, housing, and community support; and

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WHEREAS, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2023 will address the theme of “Through My Eyes,” and will highlight the personal stories of District residents with developmental disabilities and their families.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the contributions of people with developmental disabilities and declares the month of March 2023, 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.