

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Whereas, Missouri residents with disabilities are deserving of having the same choice of where, how, and with whom they work and spend their time as other Missouri residents; and

Whereas, Missouri sheltered workshops, in partnership with business and industry, are an integral part of their local communities and their economies; and

Whereas, programs and employment offered by Missouri's sheltered workshops, through projects contracted at their facilities, supported enclaves, contracts at Missouri's rest stops, employment through AbilityOne contracts, and independent work assignments provide Missouri residents with disabilities the opportunity to meet new people, gain new skills, and earn the respect, dignity, and other ancillary human benefits that come with earning a paycheck and making a contribution to society; and

Whereas, approximately 6,000 Missouri residents with disabilities avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in these programs and related employment; and

Whereas, the parents, guardians, and caregivers of many of these participants support and attest to the benefits of these programs and the employment provided under them; and

Whereas, individuals with disabilities should be free to choose the settings in which they receive services or employment, including programs and employment offered by Missouri's sheltered workshops through projects contracted at their facilities, supported enclaves, contracts at Missouri's rest stops, employment through AbilityOne contracts, and independent work assignments:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby reaffirm Missouri's support of the services of the sheltered workshops of our state.