
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 217 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, BREWSTER, MARTIN, EICHELBERGER,
GREENLEAF, SABATINA, AUMENT, BAKER, DINNIMAN, FARNESE,
VULAKOVICH, COSTA, BARTOLOTTA, RAFFERTY, STREET, WARD,
KILLION, BROWNE AND YUDICHAK, OCTOBER 16, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 16, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2017 as "National Disability
2 Employment Awareness Month"; and designating the month of
3 October 2017 as "Disability Employment Awareness Month" in
4 Pennsylvania.

5 WHEREAS, "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" is
6 observed in October each year; and

7 WHEREAS, During "National Disability Employment Awareness
8 Month," a nationwide campaign raises awareness about disability
9 employment issues and honors the many contributions of workers
10 with disabilities in the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, The observance of "National Disability Employment
12 Awareness Month" promotes positive employment outcomes for
13 individuals with disabilities and endeavors to expand ideas
14 about what youths with disabilities can achieve when they
15 receive encouragement and support for their ambitions; and

16 WHEREAS, This observance aims to inspire employers to build
17 an inclusive workplace community; and

18 WHEREAS, "National Disability Employment Awareness Month"

1 traces its history to 1945, when the Congress of the United
2 States declared the first week in October each year "National
3 Employ the Physically Handicapped Week"; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1954, Congress directed the President's Committee
5 on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week to work with
6 state and local authorities to promote job opportunities for the
7 physically handicapped; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1962, the committee was renamed the President's
9 Committee on Employment of the Handicapped to acknowledge the
10 needs and contributions of individuals with all types of
11 disabilities; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1988, Congress extended the observation from a
13 week to a month and adopted its current name; and

14 WHEREAS, More than 25 years after the signing of the
15 Americans with Disabilities Act, great progress has been made in
16 removing barriers to employment for individuals with
17 disabilities, yet further opportunities for progress exist; and

18 WHEREAS, The theme for 2017, which marks 72 years since the
19 first observance of "National Disability Employment Awareness
20 Month," is "Inclusion Drives Innovation"; and

21 WHEREAS, The theme was selected by the United States
22 Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy to
23 spur individuals and groups to post images and stimulate
24 discussion on social media about how inclusion works; and

25 WHEREAS, "National Disability Employment Awareness Month"
26 coincides with the national celebration of "Disability History
27 Month" during the third week of the month of October; and

28 WHEREAS, There is no equivalent to "National Disability
29 Employment Awareness Month" in this Commonwealth; therefore be
30 it

1 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of October 2017
2 as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month" and
3 designate the month of October 2017 as "Disability Employment
4 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.