

**ENROLLED ORIGINAL**

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-197

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 2, 2024

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 2024 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, is working to support more opportunities for economic self-sufficiency, belonging, and creative innovation by establishing a State as a Model Employer program;

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

WHEREAS, the 2024 observance of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month celebrates 38 years of advocacy in education, employment, housing, and community support; and

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WHEREAS, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2024 will address the theme of “A World of Opportunities,” and will celebrate people working together to remove obstacles and create a world where everyone can succeed.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2024”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the contributions of people with developmental disabilities and declares the month of March 2024 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.