

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 967

By Whitson

A RESOLUTION to honor the importance of advocacy in the lives of Tennesseans with disabilities and in improving access to equal opportunities across the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.7 million Tennesseans with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, disability can bring with it unique challenges in the day-to-day life of the person experiencing it; and

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities experience barriers to accessing the same education, housing, transportation, and health care as their peers; and

WHEREAS, for Tennesseans with disabilities, individual advocacy can be a powerful tool to break down barriers to equity; and

WHEREAS, collective advocacy can bring about great social and political change, such as the passage of the civil rights legislation, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Tennessee Disability Act; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pause to honor the role of advocacy in improving the lives of Tennesseans with disabilities and the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the importance of advocacy in the lives of Tennesseans with disabilities on the celebration of March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as Disability Advocacy Day in the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.