

## 2015-J6102

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the 26th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

WHEREAS, It is the sense of the State of New York to recognize and pay tribute to those landmark moments in our history that have taken a major step forward in protecting persons with disabilities and improving equality and access for all citizens in the State of New York and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to recognize the 26th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which will be celebrated throughout the State and Nation on Tuesday, July 26, 2016; one such event will be held at the Atrium in downtown Syracuse; and

WHEREAS, This year's celebration is "The ADA and Voting: Empowering People with Disabilities in Our Democracy"; and

WHEREAS, On July 26, 1990, President George H. W. Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities throughout our Nation; and

WHEREAS, On September 25, 2008, President George W. Bush signed the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAA) into law, which broadened the definition of "disability" and extended the ADA's protections to a greater number of people; and

WHEREAS, The ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits discrimination based on disability in employment, transportation, public accommodation, communications, and governmental activities; the ADA established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The ADA also requires that employers provide reasonable accommodations in the workplace to employees with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 26 years, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers and changing perceptions, while also increasing full participation in community life; and

WHEREAS, The 26th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act is a time to celebrate the aforementioned accomplishments and to recognize the many outstanding organizations, and those who lead them, that consistently go above and beyond to enhance the quality of life in our communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrating the 26th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the ongoing commitment toward a future of equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for persons with disabilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of the Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sally W. Johnston with the Central New York, Americans with Disabilities Celebration Organizing Committee.