

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Senate Resolution

By Senators Ashe, Ayer, Bartlett, Brock, Campbell, Carris, Choate, Cummings, Doyle, Flanagan, Giard, Hartwell, Illuzzi, Kitchel, Kittell, Lyons, MacDonald, Maynard, Mazza, McCormack, Miller, Mullin, Nitka, Racine, Scott, Sears, Shumlin, Snelling, Starr and White,

S.R. 12. Senate resolution designating the third week in October of 2009 as disability history week.

Whereas, according to the United States Census, one in five Vermonters has a disability, and disability experience is a significant part of the of the personal and social lives of these Vermonters and their families, and

Whereas, while disability rates are declining in older adults, they are increasing among younger Vermonters, and the overall number of individuals with disabilities living in the community is increasing, and

Whereas, Vermont citizens and the General Assembly share a proud history of promoting equal rights and opportunities for individuals with disabilities in education, employment, and community life, and

Whereas, Vermont remains committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities benefit equally from the values of freedom and unity that underlie our state's laws and constitution, and

Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is founded on four principles—inclusion, full participation, economic self-sufficiency, and equality of opportunity for all people with disabilities, and

Whereas, to ensure the full inclusion of people with disabilities into society, it is necessary to expand public knowledge, awareness and understanding of the history of disabilities and the disability rights, deaf culture, independent living, and self-advocacy movements, and of disability as a natural part of the human experience, and

Whereas, it is desirable that Vermont's public elementary, secondary and postsecondary educational institutions promote activities that provide education, awareness and understanding regarding people with disabilities through their curriculum offerings, assemblies and other activities, and

Whereas, cooperation between educational institutions and community-based organizations as a way to promote equality of opportunity and full participation of individuals with disabilities in the social, educational, economic and political life of our communities should be encouraged and promoted throughout the state, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate of the State of Vermont designates the third week in October as disability history week in Vermont, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights in Montpelier.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

ATTESTED TO:

David A. Gibson
Secretary of the Senate

DATE: _____