

RESOLUTION

Proclaiming the month of October 2009 as Disability Employment Awareness Month in Cuyahoga County: "Expectation + Opportunity = Full Participation".

WHEREAS, the annual observance of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is designed to recognize the contributions of workers with disabilities. The effort to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment actually began in 1945, when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week of October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.

WHEREAS, in 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month".

WHEREAS, this observance presents us with the opportunity to increase the public's awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers with disabilities. Programs carried out during this month will also highlight the specific barriers that still need to be addressed and removed.

WHEREAS, the 2009 observance theme is "EXPECTATION + OPPORTUNITY = FULL PARTICIPATION" and builds on the founding fathers' philosophy that the new nation sees every human being having inherent worth bestowed upon them by the Creator, and that equality is a fundamental right.

WHEREAS, Americans with disabilities strengthen our country's workforce. By enhancing the workplace environment for people with disabilities, employers can help provide access to jobs that allow these individuals to demonstrate their potential and realize their dreams.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, hereby proclaims the month of October 2009 as Disability Employment Awareness Month in Cuyahoga County: "Expectation + Opportunity = Full Participation".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cuyahoga County hereby recognizes that Americans with disabilities are an underutilized reservoir of ambition, talent and skill ready to make great contributions to the workplace.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board be, and she is, hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to Joseph A. Nanni, Director, Office of Human Resources.

On Motion of Commissioner Dimora, seconded by Commissioner Jones, the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Ayes: Dimora, Jones, Hagan.

Nays: None.

Resolution Adopted.

**Jeanne M. Schmotzer,
Clerk of the Board**

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