

A RESOLUTION proclaiming February 5, 2015, as Disabilities Awareness Day in Kentucky.

WHEREAS, more than 874,000 Kentuckians have a disability that impairs their ability to work or to carry out tasks of daily living; and

WHEREAS, all barriers to services, whether they are physical, regulatory, financial, or attitudinal, should be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, an individual with a disability and his or her circle of support should be well informed in order to exercise the freedom to make choices and direct care; and

WHEREAS, the individual should be given the education and opportunity to gain and maintain employment and become a taxpaying citizen; and

WHEREAS, no individual should be criminalized or discriminated against because of a disability; and

WHEREAS, each person, including educational, medical, and judicial systems personnel, should be educated about disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a person with a disability matters and should be afforded the opportunity to participate in the democratic process;

NOW, THEREFORE,

***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives does hereby proclaim February 5, 2015, as Disabilities Awareness Day in Kentucky to promote an increased awareness of disabilities and a reduction of the stigma often associated with them.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Sheila Schuster, Advocacy Action Network: Mental Health and Healthcare Advocacy, 120 Sears Avenue, Suite 212, Louisville, Kentucky 40207.