

A RESOLUTION recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law by President George W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, nearly 25 years ago, this nation committed itself, through the establishment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, to eliminating discrimination against people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities and guarantees equal opportunity in over six million entities in the United States, including state and local governments, private employers, employment agencies, labor unions, public schools and universities, and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, a person with a disability is defined as someone who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity; and

WHEREAS, approximately 58 million Americans have a disability, and of those, over 874,000 are Kentuckians; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky is 4th in the nation for the amount of individuals age 65 or older with a disability and 2nd in the nation for the amount of individuals age 18 to 64 with a disability; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Accessible Living, the first independent living center in Kentucky, strives every day to assist individuals with disabilities to secure their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, for the past 25 years, the implementation and enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing outmoded societal perceptions, and increasing participation in communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, while much progress has been made, much remains to be done;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. The Senate hereby recognizes the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and reaffirms the principles of equality and inclusion for individuals with disabilities, as set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act.

➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Center for Accessible Living, 501 South 2nd Street, Suite 200, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.