



Lake County Illinois

Legislation Text

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Special recognition of October 2022 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in Lake County.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is held each October to commemorate the extensive contributions of people with disabilities to America's workplaces and economy; and

WHEREAS, October 2022 marks the 77th anniversary of NDEAM; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDEAM is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the history of NDEAM traces back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into law and established a comprehensive national mandate to eliminate discrimination against individuals with disabilities and expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing participation in community life; and

WHEREAS, workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS, Lake County affirms the principals of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities, as set forth for in the Americans with Disabilities Act and as exemplified by the State of Illinois, to ensure that people with disabilities be fully integrated into the fabric of our society and our workplaces; and

WHEREAS, Lake County is committed to increase access and opportunities to all, including individuals with disabilities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RECOGNIZED, the Lake County Board does hereby recognize October 2022 as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in Lake County and calls upon residents, employers, schools, and community organizations to advance the important message that people with disabilities add value and talent to our communities.

DATED, at Waukegan, Illinois, on September 13, 2022.