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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Council Member Jean Quan

A RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 2009 AS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human experience and individuals with disabilities have the right to live independently, enjoy self-determination, make choices, contribute to society, and participate fully in the economic, political, social, cultural and educational mainstream of American society; and

WHEREAS, more than 49.7 million Americans and 5.9 million Californians have one or more physical, cognitive, emotional or psychiatric disabilities, and discrimination against individuals with disabilities still exists in critical areas of employment, housing public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, health services and access to public services; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 176, enacted by the United States Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October as "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week;" and

WHEREAS, in 1962, the word "physically" was removed from the week's name to recognize the employment needs of all Americans with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a Presidential Proclamation of Public Law 100-630 in 1988 expanded the week to a month and changed its name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month," replacing the outdated term "handicapped" with "disability;" and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area is known as the birthplace of the U.S. disability rights movement and remains a vibrant political and cultural center for the disability community;

WHEREAS, in 1980, the City of Oakland established the Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities, the MCPD, to advocate for the full inclusion of people with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, the MCPD, the Office of the Mayor, the Oakland City Council, and City staff have enjoyed a long-standing relationship enabling successful collaboration on projects removing barriers for people with disabilities, raising awareness about disability discrimination and celebrating disability art and culture;

WHEREAS, the month of October 2009, has been designated by the Mayor of Oakland as "Disability Awareness Month" to celebrate and recognize the important contributions of people with disabilities to civic and cultural life in Oakland; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Councilmembers and the Mayor of the City of Oakland, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2009, as

"DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH"

in the City of Oakland and call upon the people of Oakland to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities. I encourage the citizens of Oakland to seek counsel and input from any person or group with knowledge and expertise in matters concerning access for people with disabilities to employment, housing public accommodations, education, transportation, communication, recreation, health services, and public services.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California