

State of North Carolina

PAT McCRORY

GOVERNOR

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

2014

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Public Law 176, enacted by Congress in 1945, designated the first week in October as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week; and in 1988, Congress changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month;" and

WHEREAS, North Carolinians with disabilities represent a significant percentage of the state's population and experience disproportionately high levels of unemployment, dependence and poverty; and

WHEREAS, many North Carolinians with disabilities have the ability and desire to seek employment in settings that provide opportunities to earn competitive wages and benefits, enable them to reach their maximum potential, achieve economic self-sufficiency and contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, North Carolinians with disabilities have a positive impact on the economy by earning wages, purchasing goods and services in their communities, and becoming self-supporting; 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, the State of North Carolina supports and encourages individuals with disabilities to find employment, thus fostering the key objectives of advancing individual well-being and reducing the demand on public resources, which can then be reauthorized to those with the most significant needs; and

WHEREAS, individuals and their families, in addition to the State of North Carolina and local government, the business community, and the general public benefit greatly from increased employment of people with disabilities and share the responsibility in achieving this goal; and

WHEREAS, successfully achieving this goal requires providing appropriate training, advancing best practices and engaging the business community through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and other State of North Carolina entities in the form of counseling, education, job training and placement, transportation, assistive technology and other support services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PAT McCRORY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2014, as "**DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this second day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-ninth.



PAT McCRORY Governor