

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

INTRODUCED BY K. REGIER

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA CREATING MONTANANS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WEEK.

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into society, it is necessary to expand the public's knowledge, awareness, and understanding of developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, some Montanans have a variety of developmental disabilities, and every human life has value; and

WHEREAS, promoting a greater understanding between those with and without developmental disabilities will lead to increased opportunities for interaction between people with and without developmental disabilities and will promote a common awareness and understanding of current developmental disability issues; and

WHEREAS, many Montanans with developmental disabilities contribute much to society; and

WHEREAS, Montana has benefited from art and entertainment produced by Montanans with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Montanans with developmental disabilities live productive lives in a respectful and dignified way; and

WHEREAS, many Montana businesses benefit from the abilities of Montanans with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a greater awareness of the needs of those with developmental disabilities can help promote an understanding of the importance of providing opportunities to people with developmental disabilities to develop and apply independent living skills that are critical to personal success in society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislature designate the second week of May as Montanans With Developmental Disabilities Week.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislature declares that the observance of an annual Montanans



1 With Developmental Disabilities Week is timely and necessary, and encourages all people, school districts,
2 community colleges, cities and counties, public and private institutions of higher education, state and local
3 agencies, nonprofit and community-based organizations, and private businesses and corporations to observe
4 Montanans With Developmental Disabilities Week by declaring appropriate classroom instructional time or by
5 coordinating all inclusive activities to be conducted during that week to afford opportunities for Montana citizens
6 to learn more about the developmental disability community and to celebrate and honor its role in contemporary
7 American society.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State send copies of this resolution to the Governor,
9 the Speaker of the Montana House of Representatives, the President of the Montana Senate, the Superintendent
10 of Public Instruction, the President of the Board of Regents of Higher Education, the president of each public or
11 private university, college, or community college in Montana, the Director of the Department of Public Health and
12 Human Services, the Director of the Montana Statewide Independent Living Council, and the Director of the
13 Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities.

14 - END -