

**DD AWARENESS MONTH
PROCLAMATION
2013**

WHEREAS: INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, THEIR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND CO-WORKERS ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO FOCUS ON THE ABILITIES OF ALL PEOPLE;

AND,

WHEREAS: THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO INCREASE THIS AWARENESS IS THROUGH EVERYONE'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND THE OPENNESS TO LEARN AND ACKNOWLEDGE EACH INDIVIDUAL'S CONTRIBUTION;

AND,

WHEREAS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITIZENS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES TO FUNCTION AS INDEPENDENTLY AND PRODUCTIVELY AS POSSIBLE MUST BE FOSTERED IN OUR COMMUNITY;

AND,

WHEREAS: WE ENCOURAGE ALL CITIZENS TO SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT INCLUDE FULL ACCESS TO EDUCATION, HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES;

AND,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM SCHAFFER, STATE SENATOR, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MARCH, 2013 AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH AND RECOGNIZE THAT OUR COMMUNITIES ARE STRONGER WHEN EVERYONE PARTICIPATES. TAKE TIME TO GET TO KNOW SOMEONE WITH A DISABILITY, *LOOK BEYOND* THE DISABILITY AND SEE WHAT HE OR SHE HAS TO OFFER.

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TIM SCHAFFER, STATE SENATOR

DATE: _____

