The State of Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990, establishing a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, long before the ADA, the Washington State Legislature enacted the Washington State Law Against Discrimination (WLAD), which recognizes the right to be free from discrimination because of the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability as a fundamental civil right; and

WHEREAS, Washington is deeply committed to the principals of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities set forth by the ADA and embodied in the WLAD and other laws of our state and our local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life, but the full promise of the ADA will only be reached if we remain committed to continue our efforts; and

WHEREAS, numerous organizations in Washington work with constituents, communities, business and government to bring forth the promise of hope and freedom envisioned by the passage of the ADA and ensure that those living with disabilities enjoy the same rights and opportunities as all other Washingtonians, including the rights of fair hiring practice, education and civic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, on July 27th, 2020 we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act – recognizing the progress that has been made, reaffirming our dedication to the principals of equality and inclusion, and recommitting our efforts to reach and exceed ADA compliance;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim July 27, 2020 as

Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in honoring the ADA and supporting the rights of all Washingtonians.

Signed this 22nd day of July, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee