

State of Vermont

House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

House Resolution

H.R. 17

House resolution designating the third week in October of 2009 as disability history week

Offered by: Representatives Milkey of Brattleboro, Acinapura of Brandon, Adams of Hartland, Ainsworth of Royalton, Ancel of Calais, Andrews of Rutland City, Aswad of Burlington, Atkins of Winooski, Audette of South Burlington, Baker of West Rutland, Bissonnette of Winooski, Bohi of Hartford, Botzow of Pownal, Branagan of Georgia, Bray of New Haven, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burke of Brattleboro, Canfield of Fair Haven, Cheney of Norwich, Clark of Vergennes, Clarkson of Woodstock, Clerkin of Hartford, Condon of Colchester, Conquest of Newbury, Consejo of Sheldon, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Corcoran of Bennington, Courcelle of Rutland City, Crawford of Burke, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donaghy of Poultney, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Edwards of Brattleboro, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Fisher of Lincoln, Flory of Pittsford, Frank of Underhill, French of Shrewsbury, French of Randolph, Geier of South Burlington, Gilbert of Fairfax, Grad of Moretown, Greshin of Warren, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Heath of Westford, Helm of Castleton, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Montpelier, Howard of Rutland City, Howrigan of Fairfield, Hube of Londonderry, Hubert of Milton, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Johnson of South Hero, Johnson of Canaan, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kilmartin of Newport City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Klein of East Montpelier, Koch of Barre Town, Komline of Dorset, Krawczyk of Bennington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Larocque of Barnet, Larson of Burlington, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lenes of Shelburne, Leriche of Hardwick, Lewis of Derby, Lippert of Hinesburg, Lorber of Burlington, Macaig of Williston, Maier of Middlebury, Malcolm of Pawlet, Manwaring of Wilmington, Marcotte of Coventry, Marek of Newfane, Martin of Springfield, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McAllister of Highgate, McCullough of Williston, McDonald of Berlin, McFaun of Barre Town, McNeil of Rutland Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Minter of Waterbury, Mitchell of Barnard, Mook of Bennington, Moran of Wardsboro, Morley of Barton, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Myers of Essex, Nease of Johnson, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, Obuchowski of Rockingham, O'Donnell of Vernon, Orr of Charlotte, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Peaslee of Guildhall, Pellett of Chester, Peltz of Woodbury, Perley of Enosburg, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Ram of Burlington, Reis of St. Johnsbury, Rodgers of Glover, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of Stowe, Shand of Weathersfield, Sharpe of Bristol, Smith of Mendon, Smith of Morristown, South of St. Johnsbury, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of

Waterbury, Stevens of Shoreham, Sweaney of Windsor, Taylor of Barre City, Till of Jericho, Toll of Danville, Townsend of Randolph, Trombley of Grand Isle, Turner of Milton, Waite-Simpson of Essex, Webb of Shelburne, Westman of Cambridge, Weston of Burlington, Wheeler of Derby, Wilson of Manchester, Winters of Williamstown, Wizowaty of Burlington, Wright of Burlington, Young of St. Albans City, Zenie of Colchester and Zuckerman of Burlington

Whereas, according to the U.S. Census, one in five Vermonters has a disability, and disability experience is a significant part of the of the personal and social lives of these Vermonters and their families, and

Whereas, while disability rates are declining in older adults, they are increasing among younger Vermonters, and the overall number of individuals with disabilities living in the community is increasing, and

Whereas, Vermont citizens and the general assembly share a proud history of promoting equal rights and opportunities for individuals with disabilities in education, employment, and community life, and

Whereas, Vermont remains committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities benefit equally from the values of freedom and unity that underlie our state's laws and constitution, and

Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is founded on four principles—inclusion, full participation, economic self-sufficiency, and equality of opportunity for all people with disabilities, and

Whereas, to ensure the full inclusion of people with disabilities into society, it is necessary to expand public knowledge, awareness, and understanding of the history of disabilities and the disability rights, deaf culture, independent living, and self-advocacy movements and of disability as a natural part of the human experience, and

Whereas, it is desirable that Vermont's public elementary, secondary, and postsecondary educational institutions promote activities that provide education, awareness, and understanding regarding people with disabilities through their curriculum offerings, assemblies, and other activities, and

Whereas, cooperation between educational institutions and community-based organizations as a way to promote equality of opportunity and full participation of individuals with disabilities in the social, educational, economic, and political life of our communities should be encouraged and promoted throughout the state, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body designates the third week in October as disability history week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights in Montpelier.