



King County

Metropolitan King County Council

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has ensured the civil rights of people with disabilities since July 26, 1990, and this legislation established a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the ADA and other disability legislation has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers, changing perception, and increasing opportunities; and

WHEREAS, King County government has been a leader in creating meaningful opportunities for people with disabilities to have full access to education, transportation, employment, health care, court services, voting, recreation, and emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that our work to expand opportunity and confront the social barriers that persist around disabilities is not finished, and that we can always strive to promote acceptance and an understanding of the richness of diversity; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to address the injustices that linger and remove the barriers that remain, so that all lives are equally valued, no matter the ability; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that welcoming the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, is a critical part of our efforts to build a more exceptional and inclusive workforce and community; and

WHEREAS, King County renews its pledge to extend the promise of the American dream to all our people and recommits to cultivating a county free of barriers, discrimination, and prejudice, that fosters respect and dignity for those living with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Metropolitan King County Council, proclaim October 2016 as

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

in King County and celebrate the many contributions and ways individuals with disabilities strengthen our workforce, our communities, and our county.

DATED this third day of October, 2016.

Joe McDermott, Council Chair, District Eight

Rod Dembowski, Council Vice Chair, District One

Kathy Lambert, District Three

Dave Upthegrove, District Five

Pete von Reichbauer, District Seven

Larry Gossett, District Two

Jeanne Kohl-Welles, District Four

Claudia Balducci, District Six

Reagan Dunn, Council Vice Chair, District Nine