A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the essential work performed by individuals with disabilities during the 2020 pandemic and thanking them for their continued efforts through the remainder of the pandemic as they continue their work into the future.

5 WHEREAS, The current COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the need for essential services to continue even in areas where many businesses' physical locations and state government buildings remain closed; and

9 WHEREAS, Essential services include:

10 (1) Performing daily janitorial and total facility management services to Commonwealth facilities throughout Pennsylvania.

13 (2) Maintaining offices and providing other services in government buildings where vital work is being performed, including State Police Barracks, rest areas, welcome centers, Department of Transportation facilities, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency facilities, Department of Health facilities, Department of Human Services facilities, Department of Labor and Industry facilities and Photo License
Centers throughout the Commonwealth.

(3) Maintaining new and existing call center and help
desk support operations for the Department of Human Services,
Pennsylvania State Police, Department of Corrections, Board
of Probation and Parole, Department of Banking and
Securities, Department of Revenue and Department of Labor and
Industry.

(4) Providing deep cleaning and sanitization services in
Commonwealth offices.

(5) Producing and providing urgently needed personal
protective equipment and disinfecting and sanitization
products.

(6) Responding to dynamically changing acquisition
methods to meet the needs of the Commonwealth;
and

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has recognized the importance of
these jobs in passing laws that support the hiring of
individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, These essential services are performed in large part
by essential workers with disabilities under contracts under
section 520 of the Commonwealth Procurement Code, which is
intended to provide employment opportunities for individuals
with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Many of these essential workers work through
disability service providers that provide training, job coaches,
transportation or any other needed supports to help these
essential workers in performing this work; and

WHEREAS, This essential workforce has continued to perform
regular duties and meet the ever-changing needs of the
Commonwealth throughout the pandemic; and
WHEREAS, This essential workforce is vital to the economy of this Commonwealth and to the personal economies and well-being of the remainder of the essential workforce; and

WHEREAS, These essential workers with disabilities will remain an essential part of our workforce long after the COVID-19 pandemic has ended; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the essential work performed by individuals with disabilities during the 2020 pandemic and thank them for their continued efforts through the remainder of the pandemic as they continue their work into the future.