
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 418 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHWEYER, COHEN, HARHART, YOUNGBLOOD, KINSEY,
MURT, KOTIK, WARD, MILLARD, ENGLISH, FRANKEL, McNEILL,
D. COSTA, V. BROWN, FARINA, SCHLEGEL CULVER, SCHLOSSBERG,
DRISCOLL, DAVIS, C. PARKER, READSHAW, MACKENZIE, ROEBUCK,
R. BROWN, VEREB, ROZZI, M. DALEY, D. MILLER, ROSS, MUSTIO,
DUSH, SONNEY, McCARTER, LONGIETTI, MILNE, THOMAS, HARHAI,
DIGIROLAMO AND FREEMAN, JULY 1, 2015

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
JULY 1, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans
2 with Disabilities Act.

3 WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA),
4 the world's first comprehensive civil rights law for persons
5 with disabilities, was signed into law on July 26, 1990; and

6 WHEREAS, Described as the Emancipation Proclamation for the
7 disability community, the ADA prohibits discrimination on the
8 basis of a disability or impairment; and

9 WHEREAS, Modeled after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and
10 section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the ADA stems
11 from collective efforts by advocates in the preceding decades
12 and is the most comprehensive disability rights legislation in
13 history; and

14 WHEREAS, The ADA's employment provisions prohibit
15 discrimination in job application procedures, hiring,

1 advancement and termination and provide for equal access to
2 workers' compensation, job training and other terms, conditions
3 and privileges of employment; and

4 WHEREAS, Prior to the passage of the ADA, barriers existed to
5 employment, transportation, public accommodations, public
6 services and telecommunications that imposed staggering economic
7 and social costs on American society and undermined efforts by
8 people with disabilities to receive an education, become
9 employed and be contributing members of society; and

10 WHEREAS, A disability can occur at birth or through accident,
11 disease or aging; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 56 million people in the United States,
13 including more than 1.7 million people in this Commonwealth,
14 have some level of disability; and

15 WHEREAS, The ADA has opened public institutions and expanded
16 the benefits and privileges of education and employment to
17 citizens with disabilities nationwide; and

18 WHEREAS, This groundbreaking act has afforded accessibility,
19 full participation and self-sufficiency for individuals with
20 disabilities, fostering equality in opportunity; and

21 WHEREAS, Compliance with the nondiscrimination principles and
22 practices of the ADA is improving the lives of individuals with
23 disabilities across the nation and in this Commonwealth;
24 therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
26 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with
27 Disabilities Act of 1990 on July 26, 2015.