
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 543 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY D. MILLER, MIZGORSKI, McNEILL, PICKETT, RABB,
POLINCHOCK, SCHMITT, BIZZARRO, ZABEL, DONATUCCI, FRANKEL,
RAVENSTAHL, MARKOSEK, HOHENSTEIN, BURNS, RYAN, SHUSTERMAN,
SAPPEY, KORTZ, MERSKI, DIGIROLAMO, PASHINSKI, SCHLEGEL
CULVER, MILLARD, LONGIETTI, MURT, HILL-EVANS, DAVIDSON,
DeLUCA, SAYLOR, THOMAS, READSHAW, MENTZER, CIRESI,
YOUNGBLOOD, CALTAGIRONE, McCLINTON, MOUL, STAATS, MADDEN,
OBERLANDER, O'MARA, ROEBUCK, JOHNSON-HARRELL, GALLOWAY,
SAINATO, WARREN, GILLEN, KIM AND SCHWEYER, SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the 30th anniversary of the date of
2 enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

3 WHEREAS, July 26, 2020, marks the 30th anniversary of the
4 date of enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
5 (ADA); and

6 WHEREAS, The ADA has been one of the most significant and
7 effective civil rights laws passed by the Congress of the United
8 States; and

9 WHEREAS, Prior to the date of enactment of the ADA,
10 individuals with disabilities were too often denied the
11 opportunity to fully participate in society due to intolerance,
12 misunderstanding, ignorance or unfair stereotypes; and

13 WHEREAS, The dedicated efforts of passionate and courageous
14 disability rights advocates served to awaken the Congress of the

1 United States and the people of the United States to the
2 discrimination and prejudice that individuals with disabilities
3 face; and

4 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States worked in a
5 bipartisan manner to craft legislation to make discrimination
6 against individuals with disabilities illegal; and

7 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States passed the ADA,
8 and President George Herbert Walker Bush signed the ADA into law
9 on July 26, 1990; and

10 WHEREAS, The purpose of the ADA is to fulfill the goals of
11 opportunity, independent living, integration and economic self-
12 sufficiency for individuals with disabilities who live in the
13 United States; and

14 WHEREAS, The ADA:

15 (1) prohibits employers from discriminating against
16 qualified individuals with disabilities;

17 (2) requires that state and local governmental entities
18 accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities;

19 (3) requires a place of public accommodation to take
20 reasonable steps to ensure that the goods and services it
21 provides are accessible to individuals with disabilities; and

22 (4) requires new trains and buses to be accessible to
23 individuals with disabilities;

24 and

25 WHEREAS, The ADA has played a historic role in allowing more
26 than 55 million individuals in the United States who have
27 disabilities to better participate in society by removing
28 barriers to employment, transportation, public services,
29 telecommunications and public accommodations; and

30 WHEREAS, The ADA has served as a model for disability rights

1 in other countries; and

2 WHEREAS, Every individual in the United States, not just
3 those with disabilities, benefits from the accommodations that
4 have become commonplace since the passage of the ADA, including
5 curb cuts at street intersections, ramps for access to buildings
6 and other accommodations that provide access to public
7 transportation, stadiums, telecommunications, voting machines
8 and websites; and

9 WHEREAS, Thirty years after the date of enactment of the ADA,
10 the ADA remains a crucial tool, as children and adults with
11 disabilities still experience barriers that interfere with their
12 full participation in mainstream life in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, Thirty years after the date of enactment of the ADA,
14 individuals in the United States who have disabilities are twice
15 as likely to live in poverty than individuals without
16 disabilities, and individuals with disabilities continue to
17 experience high rates of unemployment and underemployment; and

18 WHEREAS, Thirty years after the date of enactment of the ADA
19 and 16 years after the Supreme Court of the United States issued
20 the decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, many individuals with
21 disabilities still live and work in segregated and institutional
22 settings because of a lack of access to support services that
23 would allow these individuals to live and work in their
24 community; and

25 WHEREAS, Thirty years after the date of enactment of the ADA,
26 the ADA remains a crucial tool for individuals with disabilities
27 who experience barriers to accessibility in telecommunications
28 and information technologies; and

29 WHEREAS, The United States has a responsibility to welcome
30 back and create opportunities for tens of thousands of working-

1 age veterans who have been wounded in action or have suffered
2 injuries or illnesses related to their service in the Global War
3 on Terror; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize and
5 honor the 30th anniversary of the date of enactment of the
6 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives salute everyone
8 whose efforts contributed to the enactment of the Americans with
9 Disabilities Act of 1990; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage
11 everyone in the United States to celebrate the advancement of
12 freedom and the expansion of opportunity made possible by the
13 enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; and be
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives pledge to
16 continue to work on a bipartisan basis to support opportunity,
17 independent living, economic self-sufficiency and the full
18 participation of individuals in the United States who have
19 disabilities.