



# Proclamation



## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT DAY

**WHEREAS**, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law by President George H. W. Bush on July 26, 1990, after being approved in overwhelming and bipartisan votes by both the House and the Senate; and

**WHEREAS**, passage of the ADA is celebrated annually in North Carolina and throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the ADA was crafted to ensure the civil rights of people with disabilities; to provide civic, social and economic opportunities previously denied; to change the culture's perspectives on people with disabilities, and to create a more inclusive and accepting society; and

**WHEREAS**, by providing people with the means to engage more fully in community life, economic activities, and social events, the ADA benefits everyone; people who were unable to contribute, now can; people whose voices were not heard now participate in civic dialogue; people who were once marginalized and isolated are now recognized valuable and respected members of society; and

**WHEREAS**, the ADA was the first national-level legislation in the world aimed at providing opportunities for people with disabilities; since its adoption, it has inspired many other nations to craft their own laws, thereby improving opportunities for people around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, despite significant positive changes brought about by the ADA, many challenges persist; data shows that people with disabilities still lag significantly behind others in employment rate and income; national debates continue to rage concerning health care policies with some plans being potentially devastating for people with disabilities; clearly, we must remain committed to realizing the goals that were set forth in 1990 and work steadfastly to achieve them.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, hereby proclaim August 2, 2019 as "Americans with Disabilities Act Day" in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage all residents to celebrate the positive changes brought about by the ADA, to reaffirm our commitment to accessibility and inclusiveness, and to build a space where each individual can use the full measure of their talents, capabilities and passions for the betterment of the entire community.

This, the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2019.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor