

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR50942-LG-230A (05/11)

Sponsors: Representatives Weiss, Insko, Wiley, and Blackwell (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING NORTH CAROLINIANS WITH DISABILITIES
2 AND THEIR ADVOCATES AND HONORING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
3 THE PASSAGE OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT.

4 Whereas, 2010 marks the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act,
5 landmark legislation to protect the civil rights of individuals with disabilities and ensure that
6 more than 54 million Americans receive the same basic freedoms – independence, equal
7 access, freedom of choice and inclusion – afforded to every citizen in our country; and

8 Whereas, the purpose of the Americans with Disabilities Act was to:

- 9 (1) Provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of
10 discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
11 (2) Provide clear, strong, consistent, enforceable standards addressing
12 discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
13 (3) Ensure that the federal government plays a central role in enforcing the
14 standards established in the act on behalf of individuals with disabilities.
15 (4) Invoke the sweep of congressional authority, including the power to enforce
16 the 14th amendment to the Constitution and to regulate commerce, in order
17 to address the major areas of discrimination faced day-to-day by people with
18 disabilities; and

19 Whereas, Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act with overwhelming
20 bipartisan majorities, and President George H. W. Bush signed the bill into law on July 26,
21 1990; and

22 Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act established the world's first
23 comprehensive prohibition of discrimination on the basis of disability in the areas of
24 employment, public accommodations, public services, transportation, and telecommunications;
25 and

26 Whereas, more than 1.822 million people with disabilities live in North Carolina,
27 contributing to the State's economy and to the civic life in their communities; and

28 Whereas, many of the State's citizens have been recognized as advocates for
29 individuals with disabilities, including Lockhart Follin-Mace, who served as the first director of
30 the North Carolina Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities; Ron Mace, who
31 served as founder and program director of The Center for Universal Design; and Deborah
32 Greenblatt, who served as Executive Director of Carolina Legal Assistance, a legal services
33 program devoted to enforcing the rights of children and adults with mental disabilities; and

34 Whereas, Kenneth D. Franklin served as Director of the North Carolina Office on
35 the Americans with Disabilities Act; Manuel Houston Crockett served as the principal of the
36 former Garner Road School for the Blind and the Deaf; and Grady Galloway chaired the
37 Architectural Barriers Committee of the National Vocational Rehabilitation Association; and



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1 Whereas, Thomas McCue "Mac" Brownlee, Ph.D., served on the Advocacy Council
2 for Persons with Disabilities (now Disability Rights North Carolina); Dr. Gary Shaffer served
3 as a professor of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was
4 nationally known as an expert on children's issues; and Victor Hall was a pioneer of the
5 self-advocacy movement; and

6 Whereas, the ADA has expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by
7 reducing barriers and changing perceptions, increasing full participation in community life,
8 although the full promise of the ADA will only be reached if public entities remain committed
9 in their efforts to fully implement the ADA; Now, therefore,

10 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

11 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly celebrates the 20th anniversary of the
12 Americans with Disabilities Act and reaffirms its commitment to work toward full ADA
13 compliance in the State of North Carolina.

14 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly honors the memory of Lockhart Follin-Mace,
15 Ron Mace, Deborah Greenblatt, Kenneth D. Franklin, Manuel Huston Crockett, Grady
16 Galloway, Thomas McCue "Mac" Brownlee, Dr. Gary Shaffer, and Victor Hall for their many
17 contributions in expanding the rights, abilities, and opportunities of individuals with
18 disabilities.

19 **SECTION 3.** The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this
20 resolution to the families of the individuals mentioned in this resolution.

21 **SECTION 4.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.