

CITY OF YAKIMA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS, the month of April has been designated as Disability Awareness Month to celebrate and recognize people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities are able to live independently, enjoy self-determination, make choices, contribute to society and experience full public participation in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of American society; and

WHEREAS, family members, friends, and members of the community can play a central role in enhancing the lives of people with disabilities, especially when the family and community are provided with necessary support services; and

WHEREAS, public and private employers are aware of the capabilities of people with disabilities to be engaged in competitive work in inclusive settings; and

WHEREAS, the goals of this city and state properly include providing individuals with disabilities the opportunities and support to make informed choices and decisions; live in homes and communities where such individuals can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; pursue meaningful and productive lives; contribute to their family, community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities have interdependent friendships and relationships with others and achieve full inclusion in society.

NOW, ~~THEREFORE~~, I, Kathy Coffey, Mayor of the City of Yakima, and on behalf of the Yakima City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of April as

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Yakima, and call upon citizens of Yakima to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities; furthermore, I encourage the citizens of Yakima to seek counsel and input from any person or group with knowledge and expertise in matters concerning disabilities.

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2018

Kathy Coffey, Mayor