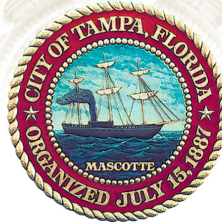


Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law on July 26, 1990 and was designed as an anti-discrimination law to protect people with disabilities and remove barriers so that people have equal access to public accommodations, commercial facilities, employment, transportation, governmental services, and telecommunications; and

WHEREAS, this signing recognizes the importance of all people and has helped society see that a disability does not diminish a person. Some recognizable achievers with disabilities who have contributed to and enriched our world include President Abraham Lincoln, physician Albert Einstein, inventor Thomas Edison, astronaut Buzz Aldrin, and musician Ludwig Van Beethoven; and

WHEREAS, to the approximately 54 million people living in the United States with a disability, the ADA is a landmark civil rights law which has been instrumental in reducing barriers, changing perceptions, and increasing community participation, thereby elevating the standard of living for persons with disabilities, their families, and our city; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa is committed to the equality of citizens and formed the Tampa Mayor's Alliance for Persons with Disabilities in 1986, the first of its kind in Florida, and has become an effective advocacy organization whose goals are to increase available opportunities and quality of life for disabled persons in our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tampa affirms the principles of equality and inclusion for persons with disabilities as set forth in the ADA, the laws of the State of Florida, and ordinances of our city, and is honored to join our own Mayor's Alliance for Person's with Disabilities with the Hillsborough County Alliance for Citizens with Disabilities in celebrating the 22nd anniversary of the promise of hope that was envisioned in the passage of the ADA, and in educating our citizens of the available resources that can help them participate more extensively in the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim July 25, 2012 as

"AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AWARENESS DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and urge all citizens to familiarize themselves with the Americans with Disabilities Act and learn how they can make changes to improve the quality of life for all residents of our community.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, on this 19th day June, 2012.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

