

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Congress, by Joint Resolution, has designated October of each year as "National Disability Employment Awareness Month"; and,

Whereas, The purpose of this month is to celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities and educate the public about disability employment issues; and,

Whereas, More than 50 million Americans – 18 percent of our population – have disabilities, and each is a family member, friend, neighbor, employee, and customer; and,

Whereas, We want to spread the important message that a strong workforce is one inclusive of the skills and talents of all individuals, including individuals with disabilities; and,

Whereas, We cannot afford, morally or financially, to lose the contributions that people with disabilities bring, not only to the workplace, but also to mainstream community life as an irreplaceable resource for our state and nation; and,

Whereas, We celebrate citizens, businesses, and government working together to remove barriers and false perceptions faced by individuals with disabilities; and,

Whereas, All persons with disabilities have the right and responsibility to be active, contributing members of society. "A Strong Workforce is An Inclusive Workforce: What Can You Do?" is this year's theme:

Now, Therefore, I, *Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in South Dakota, and I call on all citizens to observe this month by hosting and supporting initiatives and activities that support and promote providing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State