STATE OF MICHIGAN

CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN

I, Rick Snyder, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

October 2013 as

MICHIGAN DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, approximately 28 percent of people with a disability nationwide and 19 percent of people with a disability in Michigan are employed; and,

WHEREAS, people with developmental disabilities in Michigan share with all other residents the right to work in a competitive, integrated work environment with needed supports; and,

WHEREAS, every person, regardless of ability, has valuable strengths, infinite capacity to learn, and the potential to make important contributions to their local communities; and,

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities in the workforce promote diversity, increase talent in the field, expand the tax base, and lower poverty rates; and,

WHEREAS, since 1945, Congress has designated a week in October which has culminated into National Disability Employment Awareness Month with the 2013 theme being "Because We Are EQUAL to the Task"; and,

WHEREAS, promoting opportunities for working-age citizens with disabilities in Michigan will help these residents gain individual integrated employment, encourage businesses to value the contributions that employees with disabilities bring to their organization, and enhance the employment landscape to enable Michigan to compete with other states to bring in high-demand businesses and jobs; and,

WHEREAS, "Disability Employment Awareness Month" is an opportunity to recognize Michigan's employment accomplishments regarding persons with disabilities and to also identify the improvements that are needed to obtain a competitive wage in an integrated environment and to make sure all of Michigan's citizens with developmental disabilities are included; and,

WHEREAS, celebrating the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities can only serve to enrich the communities of Michigan and enhance our diversity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Snyder, Governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October 2013 as Michigan Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Rick Snyder
Governor

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR