

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 3616
By: Naishtat
Human Services
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Although there is a long and rich history regarding Texans with disabilities, there is no formal recognition of the history and accomplishments of individuals with disabilities. H.B. 3616 seeks to increase public awareness and understanding of disability rights and reaffirm the state's commitment to the equality and inclusion of people with disabilities by designating October as Disability History and Awareness Month and requiring Disability History and Awareness Month to be regularly observed in public schools.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 3616 amends the Government Code to designate October as Disability History and Awareness Month to increase public awareness of the many achievements of people with disabilities, encourage public understanding of the disability rights movement, and reaffirm the local, state, and federal commitment to providing equality and inclusion for people with disabilities. The bill requires Disability History and Awareness Month to be regularly observed by appropriate celebration and activities in public schools and other places to promote respect for and better treatment of people with disabilities in Texas.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2011.