

By: Price

H.R. No. 810

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act was signed into  
2 law by President George H. W. Bush on July 26, 1990, and a  
3 quarter-century later, this landmark legislation continues to play  
4 a vital role in protecting the civil rights of citizens with  
5 disabilities; and

6           WHEREAS, In the United States, more than 56 million people,  
7 or nearly 20 percent of the population, are living with a form of  
8 physical or mental impairment; the ADA was designed to ensure that  
9 these citizens receive equal treatment in all aspects of public  
10 life, including employment, transportation, public accommodation,  
11 telecommunications, and governmental services; and

12           WHEREAS, Through the years, countless people have benefited  
13 from Title I of the Act, which prohibits discrimination against job  
14 applicants and employees with disabilities and requires that  
15 reasonable accommodations be implemented in the workplace to assist  
16 such individuals; this provision has significantly contributed to  
17 our nation's economic well-being by promoting an even more vibrant  
18 and diverse workforce; and

19           WHEREAS, The ADA has further enhanced the quality of life for  
20 people with disabilities and their families by guaranteeing equal  
21 access to government programs, including public education,  
22 housing, transportation, and emergency services; in addition, the  
23 law has raised the standards of accessibility for such commercial  
24 facilities as hotels, restaurants, movie theaters, and medical

1 offices, and has helped establish the Telecommunications Relay  
2 Service, a free, nationwide initiative that allows people with  
3 speech or hearing impairments to place and receive telephone calls;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, An inestimable safeguard of civil rights, the  
6 Americans with Disabilities Act has empowered millions of people to  
7 achieve success in numerous fields of endeavor, and the law's  
8 outstanding legacy is indeed deserving of special recognition; now,  
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas  
11 Legislature hereby commemorate the 25th anniversary of the signing  
12 of the Americans with Disabilities Act and encourage all citizens  
13 to learn more about this historic legislation.