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TO: Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division

DATE: October 11, 2019

RE: Resolution to declare October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in the City of Detroit

The Honorable Council Member Scott Benson requested that the Legislative Policy Division draft a resolution to declare October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in the City of Detroit.

Attached, please find our draft of the resolution.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL MEMBER SCOTT BENSON

Resolution affirming support to declare October 2019 and every year after, National Disability Employment Awareness Month

WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural, and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is a campaign to educate the public about disability employment issues and celebrate the many contributions of America's workers with disabilities, and

WHEREAS, The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, People with disabilities are unemployed at TWICE the rate of people without disabilities. Increasing the labor participation for every American who is willing and able to work, will serve to reduce the local unemployment rate and strengthen the local tax base; and

WHEREAS, In this spirit, the Detroit City Council acknowledges the efforts of Detroit employers and workplaces that welcome the talents of people with disabilities and recognize their contributions as an essential component of an inclusive community; and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council is proud to be a part of this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month, by promoting this year's theme "The Right Talent, Right Now — during October and throughout the year, "; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council hereby designate the month of October, in this year, 2019, and every year, thenceforth as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in the City of Detroit; **AND BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the office of the City Clerk, and the Mayor.