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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: February 17, 2023

RE: **RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MARCH AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
AWARENESS MONTH**

Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MARCH AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH.

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

BY COUNCIL MEMBER GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO

**RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE MARCH 2023 AS DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, Developmental disabilities affect men, women, and children of every age and race in the United States (U.S.); and

WHEREAS, Detroit citizens with developmental disabilities contribute significantly to this City's schools, families, communities, and workforce; and

WHEREAS, Detroit recognizes that every person, regardless of perceived ability, has valuable strengths, infinite capacity to learn and make decisions, and the capability to make valuable contributions to their communities if given the opportunity to do so; and

WHEREAS, The most effective way to increase awareness is through everyone's openness to learn and acknowledge that there are systemic barriers that reduce the likelihood of those with disabilities enjoying equitable experiences and living independent, productive lives within their communities; and

WHEREAS, Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month is an opportunity to recognize the importance of ensuring inclusive environments with equal access to communication, education, meaningful employment, housing, transportation, and public accommodations;

WHEREAS, Equitable experiences and full inclusion is a matter of social justice. Consequently, creating equitable inclusive environments is a shared responsibility of everyone; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED, The Detroit City Council recognizes March 2023 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.