

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports the national unemployment rate for job seekers with disabilities is more than twice the rate of those without disabilities. Getting Coloradans with disabilities more fully engaged in the workforce is critical if we are to meet our potential; and

WHEREAS, October is designated as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. It is a time to raise public awareness about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme is "Inclusion Works." It conveys the important message that people with disabilities are loyal and hard-working. When employers create a culture of belonging, the dividends that are paid back to the employer are significant; and

WHEREAS, Disability Employment Awareness Month urges our employers to focus on the ability, not the disability, and it affirms Colorado's commitment to a diverse community; and

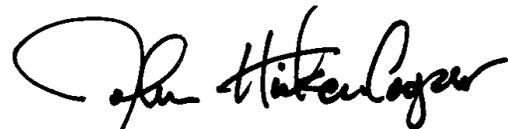
WHEREAS, Colorado employers that connect with this often untapped segment of the workforce are making a valuable investment. It is an investment that provides a pipeline of skilled workers. It is an investment that builds independent and productive lives, an investment that strengthens Colorado;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the entire State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, forever after, October 2016, as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of October, 2016


John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

