

ACT 245

H.B. NO. 794

A Bill for an Act Relating to Disability Awareness.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there are more than sixty-six thousand working-age persons with disabilities in the State, almost forty per cent of whom are presently employed. The legislature further finds that persons with disabilities have made and continue to make immense contributions to the State's workforce, economy, and culture.

The legislature recognizes that National Disability Employment Awareness Month, observed in October, raises awareness of employment challenges and obstacles for persons with disabilities while also celebrating these workers' achievements and contributions.

The purpose of this Act is to designate the month of October as "Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion" in recognition of the employment challenges and successes of persons with disabilities in the State.

SECTION 2. Chapter 8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§8- Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion. The month of October shall be known and designated as "Disability Awareness Month: Employment, Enrichment, and Inclusion." This month is not and shall not be construed as a state holiday."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved July 7, 2023.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.