



Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 5,774,000 Americans in the labor force have a disability; and

WHEREAS, disabled workers are a valuable resource, and the unemployment rate for this sector is almost twice as high as the nondisabled workforce; and

WHEREAS, at more than 16 percent, the unemployment rate for Americans with disabilities is reaching record high, and in Colorado, disabled workers face an unemployment rate that is almost twice as high as the rest of the workforce; and

WHEREAS, for people with disabilities, getting a job is harder than it should be; and

WHEREAS, workers with disabilities are competent, dedicated employees who are willing to go the extra mile to be productive; and

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities are prone to be problem-solvers because they have had to solve serious problems all their lives; and

WHEREAS, enhancing and building the diversity of the Colorado labor force is a critical component to workforce development;

Therefore, I, John Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim October, 2011,

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this thirtieth day of September, 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Hickenlooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

*John Hickenlooper
Governor*

