

The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2021.08

Maryland Disability Culture and Achievements Month

- WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 was enacted to end disabilitybased discrimination and promote economic selfsufficiency, equality, and inclusion for all people with disabilities;
- WHEREAS, Maryland has the nation’s first principal State department of disabilities responsible for developing, maintaining, revising, and enforcing disability policies and standards throughout State government;
- WHEREAS, People with disabilities are the largest and most diverse minority in the population, representing all ages, races, ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic backgrounds;
- WHEREAS, People with disabilities have talents and skills that enrich our state and its communities;
- WHEREAS, People with disabilities have a unique culture expressed in the literature, poetry, dance, film, theater, and music that they develop;
- WHEREAS, Historically, people with disabilities have achieved positive and lasting societal improvements in justice, self-empowerment, and equality; and
- WHEREAS, The benefits that disability culture and achievements create for society should be recognized;
- NOW THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY

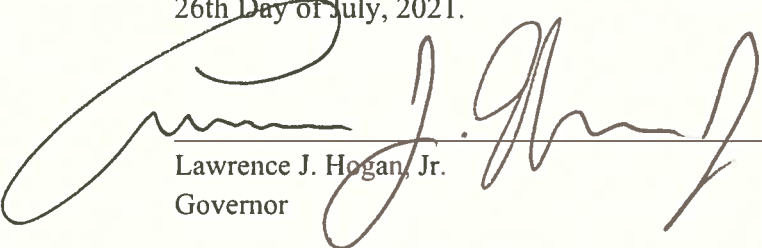
PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. All units of State government subject to the direction and control of the Governor shall annually observe July as “Disability Culture and Achievements Month.”

B. The Department of Disabilities shall, during Disability Culture and Achievements Month, collaborate with, and provide information and technical assistance to, other units of State government to develop, coordinate, and promote activities and events throughout Maryland celebrating:

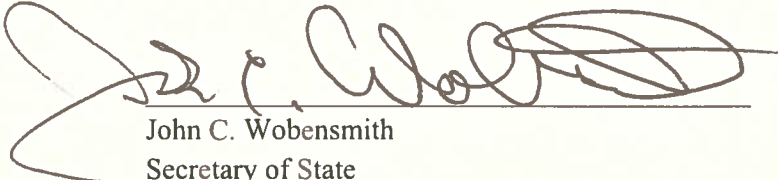
1. Disability culture, including literature, poetry, dance, film, theater, and music developed by people with disabilities; and
2. Societal achievements, including in justice, self-empowerment, and equality, of people with disabilities.

Given Under my Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis this 26th Day of July, 2021.



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:



John C. Wobensmith
Secretary of State