



OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN AND LYDIA EDWARDS

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**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING S.1810/H.2671 "AN ACT RELATIVE
TO EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ON
STATE CONTRACTS"**

WHEREAS: The Boston City Council's Committee on City, Neighborhood Services and Veteran and Military Affairs held a well-attended public hearing on May 29, 2019, to take testimony and discuss services for persons with disabilities; *and*

WHEREAS: Boston administration officials and advocates spoke about ways to expand opportunities for persons with disabilities, including in workforce training and employment; *and*

WHEREAS: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities is twice as high as those without a disability in 2018, and it is critical that we support measures to increase and ensure access to opportunities for those with disabilities in education, vocational training, and employment; *and*

WHEREAS: The Representatives of Work Inc. together with other advocates, requested from the Boston City Council through its Committee on City, Neighborhood Services and Veteran and Military Affairs for support and advocacy for the passage of an important legislation being considered in the Massachusetts Legislature called "*An Act Relative to the Employment of Persons with Disabilities on State Contracts*"; *and*

WHEREAS: S.1810/H.2671 "*An Act Relative to the Employment of Persons with Disabilities on State Contracts*" is sponsored and championed by many state legislators including many members of the Boston delegation; *and*

WHEREAS: The bill calls for contracts issued for services in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any political subdivision that receives appropriated funds from the state to have at least 10% of the people hired for the contract be individuals with disabilities; *and*

WHEREAS: The hiring percentage requirement laid out in the bill would be phased into effect as follows: January 1, 2021, at least 2% hired would be persons with disabilities; January 1, 2022, at least 4%; January 1, 2023, at least 6%; January 1, 2024, at least 8%; January 1, 2025, at least 10%; *and*

WHEREAS: This legislation would expand opportunities for persons with disabilities in the workforce and help them to achieve their full potential and career goals, and allow the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be a leader in promoting equity for persons with disabilities; *now therefore be it*

RESOLVED: The Boston City Council supports the passage of S.1810/H.2671 “*An Act Relative to the Employment of Persons with Disabilities on State Contracts*” and urge prompt action in the approval of this important legislation; *and be it further*

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Governor and members of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and the Massachusetts Senate.

Filed in Council: June 26, 2019