OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN, ERIN MURPHY, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AND ADA DAY ON JULY 23, 2025 IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS: This year marks the 35th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act. Signed into law on July 26th, 1990, the American with Disabilities Act is a federal act that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities, and ensures that all people with disabilities are entitled to the same rights, opportunities, and services as every other American; *and*

WHEREAS: The ADA is a powerful instrument in promoting a society where people with disabilities can fully participate and thrive, without facing unjust barriers or prejudice. Through its extensive network of regional centers, the ADA National Network works to ensure awareness and compliance with ADA regulations in order to promote equality of opportunity, full participation, and self-sufficient living for individuals with disabilities; *and*

WHEREAS: On July 23, 2025, the City of Boston will celebrate Americans with Disabilities Day. According to a 2021 US Census Bureau report, 8.3% of Boston residents under 65 live with disabilities. This includes difficulties in self-care, hearing, vision, independent living, cognition, and walking; *and*

WHEREAS: The City of Boston's Disabilities Commission's mission is to increase opportunities for people with disabilities so that they can have full and equal participation in all aspects of life. In 2022, the Disabilities Commission improved City Hall Plaza's ADA compliance by adding accessibility features. Citywide, they increased accessibility for those with limited hearing through expanding closed captioning on public screens; *and*

WHEREAS: In 2016, the Boston City Council and Mayor Walsh created the Language and Communications Access (LCA) program to provide translation and interpretation services for non-English speaking residents and those with communication-related disabilities in all City departments. The LCA office ensures accessibility for constituents and upholds Boston's citywide Language and Communication Access Ordinance*; and*

WHEREAS: The City of Boston has greatly improved and continues to work in improving access for people with disabilities by requiring facilities and public ways to be ADA compliant*; and*

WHEREAS: We want to recognize the tremendous work of organizations dedicated to the engagement of persons with disabilities, such as the South Boston Special Kids and Young Adults, and the Challenger Baseball League for children with special needs, which was sponsored by Sean O'Brien and Local 25 of the Teamsters Union*; and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the Boston City Council affirms its support for individuals with disabilities and raises awareness of the ADA by joining in and celebrating the 35th anniversary of the American with Disabilities Act and ADA Day on July 23, 2025 in the City of Boston.

Filed on: July 9, 2025