

STATE OF MISSOURI Proclamation BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law by President George H. W. Bush in the presence of advocates like Rev. Harold H. Wilke of Washington, Missouri, who, born without arms, symbolized the resilience and dignity of the disability community, marking a historic commitment to ensuring equal opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the 35th anniversary of the ADA, celebrated on July 26, 2025, recognizes three and a half decades of progress in dismantling barriers to access and inclusion in employment, transportation, public services, and community life for millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, the ADA has served as a global model for disability rights, inspiring nations worldwide to adopt similar protections and fostering a more inclusive society that values the contributions of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, despite significant advancements, challenges remain in achieving the ADA's full promise, including disparities in employment, accessibility, and equitable treatment, underscoring the need for continued advocacy and action; and

WHEREAS, the 35th anniversary offers an opportunity for all Americans to recommit to the principles of the ADA, honoring the resilience and determination of the disability community while striving for a future where every individual can thrive without discrimination or limitation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim July 26, 2025, to be

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) DAY

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 25th day of March 2025.

ATTEST



Mike Kehoe _{Governor}

SECRETARY OF STATE