

# NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

October 14, 2008

## RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, by an Act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights was created; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Civil Rights is charged under the law with consulting with and advising the Attorney General with respect to the work of the Division on Civil Rights, surveying and studying the operations of the Division, and reporting to the Governor and the Legislature with respect to such matters they relate to the work of the Division and at such times as it may deem in the public interest; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination was the first state-wide civil rights statute in the nation, and was designed to address discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights is charged with enforcing the Law Against Discrimination and has been instrumental in informing the public and promoting the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and combating unlawful discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey is the home to people of all abilities; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey takes great pride in its diversity; and

**WHEREAS**, differently-abled people in New Jersey have contributed to the artistic, scientific, academic, political and all arenas that make our state such a vibrant place to live; and

**WHEREAS**, October is National Disabilities Awareness Month; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of people living in New Jersey will face some form of disability in their lifetimes or those of family members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Civil Rights serves all the people of New Jersey, including people with mental, physical, developmental disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate that we pay tribute to the valuable contributions made by our civic celebration and formal recognition of these rights and privileges;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the New Jersey Commission on Civil Rights, that we hereby officially recognize October 2008 as Disabilities Awareness Month for the Commission and the Division on Civil Rights.