HR 9083 2012

House Resolution

A resolution designating May 7-11, 2012, as "Disability Awareness Week" in Florida.

WHEREAS, over 36 million Americans are classified as disabled, roughly 12 percent of the total population, and more than 50 percent of those disabled individuals are classified as in their working years, and

WHEREAS, the leading causes of new disability claims in 2010 included musculoskeletal/connective tissue disorders, cancer, injuries and poisoning, cardiovascular/circulatory disorders, and mental disorders, and

WHEREAS, the majority of disabilities, an estimated 95 percent according to the Council for Disability Awareness (CDA), are caused by illnesses rather than accidents, and

WHEREAS, more than 6 million children with disabilities receive special education and related services within schools each year through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and

WHEREAS, each child who receives education services under IDEA must have an Individualized Education Program which is constructed to fit his or her needs to better aid the child in obtaining his or her goals, and

WHEREAS, IDEA mandates that transition planning must begin when a student turns 16 at the very latest to ensure vocational or postsecondary education, independent living, and community participation, and

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WHEREAS, educating people about disabilities and the circumstances encountered by those having a disability contributes to efforts to assist such individuals, particularly those who are children, to live their lives to the fullest as contributing members of society, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

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That May 7-11, 2012, is designated as "Disability Awareness Week" in Florida.