

First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R15-0751.01 Lara Margelofsky x3205

HJR15-1014

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Young and Landgraf,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert and Newell,

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House Committees

Senate Committees

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 15-1014

101 CONCERNING AWARENESS DAY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH  
102 INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

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1 WHEREAS, In 1963, a Colorado statute authorized the provision  
2 of services and supports for Colorado citizens with intellectual and  
3 developmental disabilities through local, citizen-controlled, and  
4 citizen-established community-centered boards and program-approved  
5 service agencies, offering an alternative to state-operated regional  
6 facilities; and

7 WHEREAS, For over 50 years, Colorado's community-based  
8 services system has led the way for individuals with intellectual and  
9 developmental disabilities to receive services and supports in a manner  
10 that affords them greater independence by fostering relationships between  
11 the individuals receiving services and supports and local community  
12 resources; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1           WHEREAS, Coloradans with intellectual and developmental  
2 disabilities in every county across the state are able to live, learn, play,  
3 and work in their communities with the dignity, choices, opportunities,  
4 and responsibilities afforded to all citizens due to the services and  
5 supports provided by local community- centered boards and  
6 program-approved service agencies; and

7           WHEREAS, Coloradans with intellectual and developmental  
8 disabilities want a person-centered system in which they are actively  
9 engaged in making informed choices to receive the right services, at the  
10 right time, and in the right places; and

11           WHEREAS, Colorado's community system for people with  
12 intellectual and developmental disabilities has a long and proud history  
13 of enabling people to move from large institutional services to smaller,  
14 community-based integrated services, offering alternatives in the types of  
15 services and supports they receive; and

16           WHEREAS, Colorado's community system for people with  
17 intellectual and developmental disabilities assists individuals in obtaining  
18 meaningful employment in a variety of settings, allowing them to work  
19 within their communities; and

20           WHEREAS, Direct-support professionals assist individuals with  
21 intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead self-directed and  
22 empowered lives and should receive adequate wages, benefits, and  
23 training; and

24           WHEREAS, People with intellectual and developmental  
25 disabilities should have access to comprehensible information and usable  
26 communication technologies to promote self-determination and  
27 meaningful engagement with all aspects of life; and

28           WHEREAS, Today, more than 15,000 Coloradans with intellectual  
29 and developmental disabilities receive high-quality services and supports  
30 through community-centered boards and program-approved service  
31 agencies; and

32           WHEREAS, There is a significant demand across Colorado for  
33 services and supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental  
34 disabilities, and waiting lists for services are growing; now, therefore,

1            *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventieth*  
2            *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

3            That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,  
4            proclaim February 18, 2015, to be Awareness Day for Individuals with  
5            Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the state of Colorado.

6            *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
7            to community-centered boards and organizations that provide services  
8            and supports to adults and children with intellectual and developmental  
9            disabilities and their families throughout Colorado.