

Month in order to recognize the talents, skills and dedication of disabled Americans who are a vital part of our workforce; and

Whereas, According to the United States Census Bureau, there are approximately 50 million disabled persons living in America, of which approximately 3.6 million and 1.8 million reside in New York State and New York City, respectively; and

Whereas, For Americans with disabilities, employment is vital to their sense of independence, empowerment and quality of life; and

Whereas, During National Disability Employment Awareness Month, Americans reaffirm their commitment to ensuring that people with disabilities who want to work can receive the training and services they need in order to achieve their professional goals; and

Whereas, On September 23, 2004, United States Secretary of Labor, Elaine L. Chao, issued a press release stating that she has selected “You’re Hired! Success Knows No Limitations!” as the theme of this year’s National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

Whereas, The “You’re Hired! Success Knows No Limitations!” theme is an indication to people with disabilities, especially the millions of young students throughout the nation who are studying for a profession, that America is truly committed to ensuring that they be fully included in the 21st Century workforce; and

Whereas, This year marks the 14th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, an act that has allowed disabled persons to participate more fully in our society by removing barriers, improving employment opportunities, expanding government services and regulating public accommodations, transportation and telecommunications services; and

Whereas, Despite the progress that has been made over the past 14 years, many people with disabilities still face obstacles while pursuing an education, seeking employment or finding a place of residence; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York declares the month of October as National

Disability Employment Awareness Month in New York City.

RA

LS#1454

9/22/2004

h:word/resolutions/addabbo/ls#1454