



League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE AT NATIONAL, STATE AND DISTRICT LEVELS THAT WILL PROMOTE CIVIL RIGHTS, AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

WHEREAS, the founders of the League of United Latin American Citizens, (LULAC) joined together in 1929 to establish an organization that would become the largest, oldest and successful Hispanic civil rights and service organization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, LULAC's mission is to advance the economic conditions, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health and civil rights of the Hispanic populations of the United States; and

WHEREAS, close to 40 million individuals with disabilities in the United States reported one or more disabilities in 2015. Of those 8.7 percent (4.8 million persons) were Hispanic or Latinos in 2015 according to Disability Status Report 2015; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Hispanics across the United States with an Intellectual Developmental Disability (I/DD) are severely limited in their education and employment opportunities after high school and often wait up to 15 years to access Medicaid Class or HCS Waiver Programs to obtain vital health services they need; and

WHEREAS, the National Center for Education reports that in 2013-2014 school year the number of children and youth ages 3-21 receiving special education services was 6.5 million or about 13 percent of all public school students in the United States. Of those 12 percent identify as Hispanic or Latino; and

WHEREAS, in August 2016, the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) reported that of individuals ages 16 and over in the United States only 19.8 percent of people with disabilities were employed in comparison to 68.8 percent of people without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) are limited in their ability to bring awareness and educating people regarding disabilities including disability etiquette guidelines in their community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that LULAC strongly supports the creation of a committee for persons with disabilities at the National, State and District levels that will Promote Civil Rights, Awareness, Education and Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities.

Voted & approved by the National Assembly of the 2017 LULAC National Convention on July 8, 2017.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President