## THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N.J.

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

By Senate President SWEENEY, Assembly Speaker COUGHLIN And All Members of the Legislature

- WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to join the Arc of New Jersey in recognizing March of 2021 as National Developmental Disability Awareness Month; and,
- WHEREAS, This important observance promotes respect for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, raises awareness of the challenges and obstacles they face, and promotes understanding, encouragement, and opportunities that allow them to live fulfilling lives; and.
- **WHEREAS**, Developmental disabilities originate before the age of twenty-two and result in significant functional limitations that require support services, and approximately 133,000 people with an intellectual or developmental disability call New Jersey home; and,
- WHEREAS, As our State's leading advocacy and services organization for citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the Arc of New Jersey and its local chapters serve approximately 27,000 individuals and their families, and its exemplary Self-Advocacy Project provides essential assistance to the New Jersey Statewide Self-Advocacy Network; and,
- **WHEREAS**, It is altogether proper and right for the members of this Legislature to recognize the auspicious occasion of National Developmental Disability Awareness Month and to note the important contributions made by our neighbors who have these disabilities; now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this Legislature notes March of 2021 as National Developmental Disability Awareness Month and encourages the people of this State to take part in its observance; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk, be transmitted to the Arc of New Jersey.

Li**AdteM**etzger Secretary of the Senate Dana M. Burley Clerk of the General Assembly

Stephen M. Sweeney
President of the Senate

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