



## H.R. 1355 – Expressing support for designation of Disability Pride Day and recognizing that all people, including those living with disabilities, have the right, responsibility, and ability to be active, contributing members of society and fully engaged as citizens

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1355 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Danny Davis (D-IL) on July 17, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Education, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1355 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 22, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1355 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals and ideals of Disability Pride Day;
- Acknowledges the efforts of the City of Chicago's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Disability Pride Parade organizers to raise awareness concerning the value of people with disabilities;
- Invites the Nation to join in celebrating the pride, the power, and the potential of people with disabilities by celebrating Disability Pride Day; and
- Urges public officials and the general public to honor Americans with disabilities by educating themselves on ways to support and encourage understanding of persons with disabilities in our schools, within our diverse workforce, as well as in our communities.

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### BACKGROUND

The City of Chicago is holding its fifth annual Disability Pride Parade on July 26, 2008. The Grand Marshal of the parade will be former Rep. Tony Coelho (D-CA), the primary author and sponsor of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-336). This legislation prohibited discrimination based on disability, defined as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000 about 19 percent of Americans- 50 million individuals- had some form of disability. Americans over the age of 65 have a disability rate of around 40 percent. The highest rates of disability are found in the coal mining areas of Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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