

WHEREAS,

A disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals to live independently, to exert control and choice over their own lives, and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities through full integration and inclusion in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of society; and

WHEREAS.

Nebraska encourages and supports the rights of our citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities to make their own personcentered decisions; to advocate for themselves and express their wants, needs, wishes, and desires; and to receive the supports they need to be successful, productive, and independent members of their communities; and

WHEREAS,

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month seeks to educate the community about the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live their best lives and be seen not as a person with a developmental disability, but as a contributing neighbor, co-worker, church member, classmate, voter, friend, volunteer, and valued member of their community.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of March 2022 as

## DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

in Nebraska and I do hereby proclaim that individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members of their communities and the state and urge all citizens to embrace, support, and befriend persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Seventh day of March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-two.

Attest:

Secretary of State

Fete Cutth Governor