

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker*

WHEREAS, Alaska Statute recognizes the first week of October as Alaska Employ People with Disabilities Week to celebrate and foster the integration of Alaskans with disabilities into our state's workforce; and

WHEREAS, this observance, and associated activities throughout the state, underscore the value of the talent and value added to our workplace and to our communities by individuals with disabilities, and reaffirms the State of Alaska's commitment to all of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, competitive and integrated employment provides individuals with a sense of pride, financial security, stable living conditions, access to better health management, and increased independence; and

WHEREAS, Alaska is an Employment First state, and our State agencies prioritize competitive and assimilated employment for Alaskans. The State is committed to being a model employer by attracting qualified individuals with disabilities to contribute their knowledge, skills, and abilities as public employees; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act is now Alaska State Law, empowering Alaskans with disabilities to pursue employment earnings and savings, while allowing them to still qualify for vital public benefits; and

WHEREAS, during the first week of October, the State of Alaska celebrates and recognizes the talents of individuals with disabilities in the workplace and promotes raising awareness about disability employment opportunities as well as challenges; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim October 1-7, 2018 as:

### *Alaska Employ People with Disabilities Week*

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to observe this week with appropriate programs and activities and encourage employers to hire qualified Alaskans with disabilities, and to promote the essential message that individuals with disabilities are valuable members of Alaska's workforce.

Dated: October 12, 2018



*Bill Walker*  
Bill Walker, Governor  
who has also authorized the  
seal of the State of Alaska to  
be affixed to this proclamation.