WHEREAS: Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS: In this spirit, the State of Oregon is recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month this October to raise awareness about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Activities during this month will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Oregon’s commitment to an inclusive community, and

WHEREAS: The theme for the 2015 National Disability Employment Awareness Month is "My disability is one part of who I am." By working together to open doors of opportunity for all Oregon citizens, including those with disabilities, we can help fulfill the promise of our great State; and

WHEREAS: In the spirit of the American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA), Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), we can improve and expand access to education and opportunities for people with disabilities to integrate into the workplace.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim October 2015 to be

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, June 24, 2015.

Kate Brown, Governor

Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State