

**No. R-230. House concurrent resolution designating February 11, 2026, as Disability Advocacy Day at the State House.**

(H.C.R.189)

Offered by All Members of the House

Offered by All Members of the Senate

*Whereas*, the Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights (VCDR), founded in 1974, serves as a statewide coalition of disability rights organizations working to protect and advance people with disabilities, and

*Whereas*, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, Pub. L. No. 101–336 (1990) (ADA), as amended, established comprehensive civil rights protections for persons with disabilities, and

*Whereas*, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that unnecessary institutionalization of people with disabilities constitutes discrimination under the ADA, and

*Whereas*, the closure of the Brandon Training School in 1993 marked a historic moment in Vermont’s disability rights progress, ending the State’s operation of institutional facilities for persons with disabilities, and

*Whereas*, in Vermont, the prevalence of persons with disabilities is increasing, and they now represent one in four Vermonters, and

*Whereas*, recent State data shows that academic achievement and high school graduation rates for persons with disabilities and for students studying under an Individual Education Program are lower compared to the overall rates for the student population, and these education disparities have long-term life implications, and

*Whereas*, persons with disabilities continue to face barriers in accessing voting, securing employment, finding housing, and arranging for transportation, and are more likely to contemplate suicide, and

*Whereas*, despite these challenges, persons with disabilities make impressive and praiseworthy societal contributions in Vermont, and

*Whereas*, Disability Advocacy Day has occurred at the State House for many years and provides an important opportunity to recognize progress while acknowledging ongoing challenges, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly designates February 11, 2026, as Disability Advocacy Day at the State House, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to VCDR.