



Hello Justin,

Governor Signs Executive Order Announcing October as Maryland Disability History and Awareness Month

As many of you know, during the 2009 Legislative Session, I introduced legislation to create a Disability History and Awareness Month in our State to address the lack of knowledge and understanding about people living with disabilities and their important contributions throughout history. While the bill was unsuccessful in the General Assembly, I continued to work on this important initiative.

I am happy to announce that on July 26th, at Maryland's Annual Americans with Disabilities Celebration, Governor Martin O'Malley took up the cause and signed an executive order designating October as Maryland Disability History and Awareness Month.

I was honored to be there with Governor O'Malley to celebrate this tremendous step towards full social acceptance for the 845,345 citizens of Maryland who have a disability. These citizens often encounter social challenges when interacting with those who are uninformed about the disabilities community. It is my belief that Disability History and Awareness month will help to change these misperceptions through lessons, activities and events hosted in our schools and organized by the Maryland State Department of Education.



Much thanks to Governor O'Malley and Department of Disabilities Secretary, Catherine Raggio, for making Disability History and Awareness Month a reality. It is great to see our State taking an active role in teaching our children to accept and embrace all types of diversity.

For more information about the Executive Order or to view pictures of the event, please visit the [Governor's Website](#).

Sincerely,

Justin Ross

As always, feel free to contact me at any time by calling 301-858-3652 or emailing Justin.ross@house.state.md.us.

By Authority, Friends of Justin Ross, Jane Ross, Treasurer

www.justinross.us | [Contact Us](#)