*Proclamation*

Disability Employment Awareness Month

October 2018

**WHEREAS,** in 1988, Congress declared the month of October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month to recognize the contributions made by individuals with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS,** Washington, DC is committed to breaking down barriers, and providing resources and training for residents who live with a disability so that they can access employment and achieve success in the work place; and

**WHEREAS,** the importance of inclusion and diversity in our workforce creates opportunity for growth and improvement and helps toward building a stronger economy for our city; and

**WHEREAS,** our residents with disabilities deserve the right to live independently, enjoy self-determination and be treated equally in the workplace; and

**WHEREAS,** during this month, the Office of Disability Rights’ will host the Mayor’s Annual Disability and Diversity Expo in order to showcase the resources and programs available in our community for residents with disabilities seeking higher education, employment, and promotion in the workforce:

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,** do hereby proclaim October 2018 in Washington, DC, as **“Disability Employment Awareness Month”**.

Muriel Bowser

Mayor, District of Columbia