

Senate Resolution No. 140

Offered by Senator MacGregor

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2020,
AS DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS WEEK

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals, including direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals, are key to providing publicly-funded, long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, These professionals provide essential support that ensure individuals with disabilities are included as a valued part of their community, supported at home, at work, and in the communities of our state, while also empowering them to live with the dignity all people of our state and nation deserve; and

WHEREAS, All communities have a stake in ensuring that individuals with disabilities thrive through the connections of their families, friends, and communities, fostered by direct support professionals to avoid more costly institutional care; and

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities by helping them make person-centered choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, These professionals must build close, respectful, and trusting relationships with individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized support to individuals with disabilities, including assistance with the preparation of meals, helping with medication, assistance with daily living, assistance with access to the environment around them, providing transportation to school, work, religious, and recreational activities, as well as helping with general daily affairs, such as financial matters and medical appointments; and

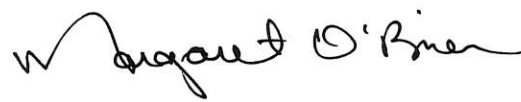
WHEREAS, There is a documented, critical and increasing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Direct support professionals are a critical element in supporting individuals who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions and individuals with functional limitations, and helping them to transition successfully from medical events to post-acute care and long-term support and services; and

WHEREAS, During this commemorative week, we should recognize and honor direct support professionals for their commitment to providing important services to people with disabilities in our state and advocate for their living wages, benefits, and opportunities for advancement, so they can continue to provide the highest quality of support for their patients; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the members of this legislative body commemorate September 13-19, 2020, as Direct Support Professionals Week.

Adopted by the Senate, September 10, 2020.


Secretary of the Senate

