

House Resolution 812

By: Representative Kidd of the 145th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing July 26, 2015, as the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the United States committed itself to eliminating discrimination against people
4 with disabilities, including thousands of Georgians like Ms. Pat Puckett and Mr. Mark
5 Johnson, 25 years ago through the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and

6 WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, President George Herbert Walker Bush signed into law
7 America's first comprehensive civil rights law addressing the needs of people with
8 disabilities, which prohibited discrimination in employment, public services, public
9 accommodations, and telecommunications; and

10 WHEREAS, in August, 2012, 25 people from across the country assembled for the ADA25
11 Summit in Atlanta, Georgia, sponsored by the Amerigroup Foundation and Georgia's own
12 Shepherd Center, with the purposes of connecting historical projects on the disability rights
13 movement and planning for the upcoming 25th anniversary of the passage of the ADA in
14 2015; and

15 WHEREAS, the Atlanta summit led to the formation of the ADA Legacy Project, which will
16 have its nationwide ADA celebration tour stop in Atlanta, Georgia, on May 10, 2015; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2013, Atlanta's Shepherd Center and the University of Georgia's Institute on
18 Human Development and Disability formed the Georgia Disability History Alliance,
19 bringing together people interested in protecting and preserving this state's disability history;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the Institute on Human Development and Disability at the University of
22 Georgia has been working since 1965 to ensure that all people can achieve their highest

23 capacity and quality of life through research, scholarship, and support of the College of
24 Family and Consumer Sciences on behalf of people with disabilities; and

25 WHEREAS, a special collection of artifacts, media articles, stories, and historical documents
26 showcasing Georgia's role in disability history is currently housed at the Richard B. Russell
27 Special Collections Library on the University of Georgia campus in Athens, Georgia; and

28 WHEREAS, the 2015 ADA Symposium will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, from May 3-10,
29 2015; and

30 WHEREAS, the Society for Disability Studies, a 400 member association of advocates,
31 artists, and scholars, will gather in Atlanta for three days in June, just one month before the
32 formal anniversary of the landmark civil rights law.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize July 26, 2015, as the 25th anniversary of the Americans
35 with Disabilities Act.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 public and the press.