



# A PROCLAMATION

On Behalf Of The People Of  
**THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE**

By Her Honor The Mayor

**Indya Kincannon**

To Publicly Recognize

## *Americans with Disabilities*

- WHEREAS:** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law July 26, 1990, representing a historic commitment to the values of liberty, individual dignity, and equal opportunity for millions of Americans living with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS:** This legislation built upon protections established by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973—particularly Section 504—and the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975, now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which ensures that every child has the right to a quality education tailored to their needs, regardless of ability; and
- WHEREAS:** These laws reflect principles that every individual is created with purpose, that families should be supported in raising their children with care and respect, and that communities thrive when everyone is given the opportunity to contribute; and
- WHEREAS:** Knoxville residents value personal responsibility, strong families, and faith-based and local initiatives as key to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are treated with fairness, compassion and respect; and
- WHEREAS:** The ADA and the protections that preceded it have empowered people with disabilities to live, learn, and work with greater independence, fostering a culture of inclusion and productivity that strengthens our schools, our businesses, and our communities; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Knoxville recognizes that preserving and advancing the ideals of the ADA, IDEA, and Section 504 requires ongoing local leadership, sound governance, and a shared commitment to ensuring access and opportunity for every Knoxville resident.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Indya Kincannon, Mayor of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee,  
do hereby proclaim July 26, 2025, to be

## *Americans with Disabilities Act 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Day*

in our city and ask all residents to join in this recognition.

Given under my hand and affixed with the  
Seal of the City of Knoxville, Tennessee,  
This Twenty-Sixth Day of July 2025

  
Mayor

