

1 rather than having to be segregated from their communities in a facility to receive support;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the number of individuals with disabilities waiting for individual and
4 family support and services continues to increase annually; and

5 WHEREAS, many programs for people with disabilities are being threatened with
6 cuts or elimination; and

7 WHEREAS, LaCAN is a statewide grassroots network of individuals, families and
8 other stakeholders advocating for individual and family support and services for Louisiana's
9 citizens who experience developmental disabilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Disability Rights Day at the Capitol allows individuals with disabilities
11 and families from across Louisiana to meet their legislators at the Capitol and educate them
12 on the issues impacting people with disabilities as well as to rally in support of individual
13 and family support and services.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 commend the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council and its grassroots advocacy
16 network, LaCAN, for its advocacy efforts to ensure that people with disabilities are
17 supported to live independently and are integrated and included in all facets of community
18 life.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20 designate April 5, 2016, as Disability Rights Day in Louisiana, a day to celebrate that much
21 has been accomplished in Louisiana but also recognize that much work remains for all
22 people with disabilities to be fully included in their communities.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
24 Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council.

