WHEREAS, in July 1991, President Bush signed into law the Americans with Disabilities Act to promote and protect the rights of American citizens with disabilities, establishing a national mandate to end discrimination; and

WHEREAS, this civil rights law applies to the 50 million Americans with disabilities, comprising the largest single minority group in the United States; and

WHEREAS, disability is more often an attitude than a lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, disability transcends issues of race, ethnicity, age, gender, and economic status; all are eligible; and

WHEREAS, contributions made to society, civilization, and the whole of human experience by individuals with disabilities should be acknowledged and celebrated for the benefit and the betterment of all; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of National Disabilities Awareness Month is the enlightenment of all Americans to the abilities of the individual and the inclusion of the needs of all its citizens in issues of equity, access, education and employment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohlone Community College District President/Superintendent and Board of Trustees declare and affirm the month of October as National Disabilities Awareness Month and celebrate the lives and contributions made by individuals with disabilities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 14th day of October 2009.

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Gari Browning, Ph.D., President/Superintendent
Ohlone Community College District
County of Alameda, State of California

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John Weed, Chair, Board of Trustees
Ohlone Community College District
County of Alameda, State of California