



PROCLAMATION

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
17th Anniversary**



WHEREAS, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into law on July 26, 1990, calling this legislation a "dramatic renewal not only for those with disabilities but for all of us, because along with the precious privilege of being an American comes a sacred duty to ensure that every other American's rights are also guaranteed."; and

WHEREAS, for almost two decades, the ADA has sought to ensure that people with disabilities are treated as equal citizens, free from discrimination, and are extended opportunities to access education, achieve gainful employment, and fully participate in the recreational, leisure, and social activities in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the ADA's far-reaching reforms have been instrumental in improving the lives of thousands of people with disabilities across the United States, and

WHEREAS, the City of Bend is committed that all citizens are provided access to employment, education, recreation, public transportation, or cultural activities; and through these and other efforts, we will continue to build on the progress of the ADA, and, by doing so, hold fast to our belief in the promise and potential of every person;

NOW, THEREFORE, on this anniversary of the ADA, the Bend City Council underscores our commitment to ensuring that our democratic process and this City government are accessible to all citizens; and hereby proclaims the month of July 2007 as a month of recognition of the 17th Anniversary of the Americans with Disability Act, and does further acknowledge and commend the Human Dignity Coalition and the Central Oregon Coalition for Access for their commitment and assistance with Bend's ongoing efforts to meet the needs of our citizens with disabilities.

ATTEST

Bruce Abernethy, Mayor

Patricia Stell, City Recorder