

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 25-039

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AS DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHEREAS, October 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, the history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945 when it started as an awareness week and focused specifically on people with physical disabilities. Later, it expanded to a full month and its name and scope evolved to address the importance of increasing workforce inclusion for people with any disability to reflect the diversity of communities across the United States; and

WHEREAS, National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities past and present and showcases supportive, inclusive employment policies and practices; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the skills, contributions, and achievements of workers with disabilities in the workplace and the broader economy and the significance of the 80th anniversary. Reflecting this, "Celebrating Value and Talent" is this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month theme; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County partners with Developmental Disabilities Community Services, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, and 13 Career Path agencies, including AtWork!, Cares of Washington, Community Trades and Careers, Northwest Center, Orion Industries, PROVAIL, Service Alternatives, SAILS Washington, Sherwood Community Services, Vadis, Village Community Services, Work Opportunities, and Washington Vocational Services, providing opportunities and assistance for more than 800 people with disabilities to find and retain integrated employment, working with employers, job coaches and the employee for successful employment; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County, Career Path agencies, and community partners work diligently to provide paid, competitive employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities in integrated work settings with appropriate ongoing support from employment specialists; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County actively supports the goals of equality, opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for all people with disabilities and recognizes the right to be an integral and contributing member of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize October as Disability Employment Awareness Month in Snohomish County and encourages all residents, visitors, and employers to join Snohomish County in honoring the contributions people with disabilities make to our community and economy and in supporting individuals with disabilities in their pursuit for employment opportunities to ensure that workers with disabilities have access to good jobs every month of every year.

APPROVED this 1st day of October, 2025.

Nate Nehring

Council Chair

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Councilmember

Strom Peterson

Councilmember

Megan Dunn

Council Vice-Chair

Jared Mead

Cøuncilmember

ATTEST:

Debbie Eco, CMC

Clerk of the Council