

**Resolution by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission
Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the ADA and
Reaffirming its Mandate and Commitment under HAVA to Equal Participation in Elections**

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law to establish a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the ADA was to ensure that individuals with disabilities have the right to fully participate in all aspects of society,

WHEREAS, the Nation's goals regarding individuals with disabilities are to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency,

WHEREAS, the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) was passed by Congress to improve voting and elections in the United States;

WHEREAS, HAVA established the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) as a resource and to assist in the effective administration of Federal elections;

WHEREAS, the EAC's role, in part, is to assist the States in effective implementation and conduct of elections,

WHEREAS, the EAC is mandated with promoting methods of voting and administering elections that will be convenient, accessible, and easy to use for all voters,

WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities must be provided the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence as for other voters,

WHEREAS, the EAC is charged with promoting information about polling places, outreach programs, training of election officials, poll workers and volunteers on how best to promote the access and participation of individuals with disabilities in elections for Federal office,

WHEREAS, the EAC is also charged with establishing voluntary voting systems guidelines, testing and certification of voting systems and the accessibility of those systems for individuals with disabilities,

WHEREAS, The ADA and HAVA have expanded opportunities for Americans with disabilities by reducing barriers and changing perceptions, and increasing full participation in community life, including in elections and voting,

WHEREAS, the full promise of the ADA and HAVA will only be reached if we remain committed to continue our efforts to fully implement these Acts,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the EAC celebrates and recognizes the progress that has been made by reaffirming the principles of equality and inclusion and recommitting our efforts to reach full ADA and HAVA compliance.

Adopted the 28th day of July 2015
in Washington, DC