



## **A Resolution addressing Disabilities**

**Committee: Health**

**Resolution:HEA-20-06**

1. **WHEREAS**, African Americans women with disabilities are facing multiple
2. intersections and are a part of at least three minority groups.
3. **WHEREAS**, Under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 the law prohibits
4. discrimination on the basis of disabilities by programs, activities receiving federal
5. financial assistance. School districts must provide free and appropriate public education
6. to students who have a physical or mental condition.
7. **WHEREAS**, 21.3% of multiracial girls with disabilities, 18.6% of African American
8. girls with disabilities are suspended from school compared with 5.2% of white girls with
9. disabilities.
10. **WHEREAS**, Young adults with disabilities are less likely to complete a post-secondary
11. education.
12. **WHEREAS**, Between 2010 to 2014 the rate of violent victimization among girls ages 12
13. and up with disabilities was almost triple the rate among girls without disabilities.
14. **WHEREAS**, Victims of sexual abuse with disabilities are more vulnerable to abuse due
- to
15. physical challenges, dependance on caregivers or lack of comprehensive sexual
16. education.
17. **WHEREAS**, Victims of sexual abuse with disabilities may have more difficulty

18. communicating or convincing others to believe what happened. Due to this ultimately  
19. they may not receive the proper help needed to recover or spur actions to prevent future  
20. abuse.

21. **WHEREAS**, Women with disabilities display low labor force rates and high  
22. unemployment rates.

23. **WHEREAS**, Low employment rates for women with disabilities contribute to poverty.  
24. One third of women with disabilities are living in poverty.

25. **WHEREAS**, The poverty rates for women with disabilities is 31.6% higher than men  
26. with disabilities.

27. **WHEREAS**, African American women with disabilities experience significant financial  
28. constraints when it comes to receiving proper care.

29. **WHEREAS**, African Americans with disabilities are less likely to identify with others  
30. with disabilities as a social political group or minority identity.

31. **WHEREAS**, A primary barrier to integrating a positive self-concept and limiting access  
32. to opportunities that provide a shared experience.

33. **WHEREAS**, African American women with disabilities are underrepresented or  
34. misrepresented in research and in United States culture.

35. **WHEREAS**, Underrepresentation of African American women with disabilities in the  
36. United States popular culture promotes shame within the community.

37. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that NOBEL Women will partner with  
38. organizations that focus on bettering the lives of people living with a disability.

39. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that NOBEL women promotes nationwide proper  
40. inclusion and teaching method training for special education teachers.

41. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that NOBEL Women encourages implementation
42. of special education counselors within each post-secondary education institution.
43. **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that NOBEL Women encourages more
44. audits and researches on the mental health and well-being of African American women
45. with disabilities.

**Introduced by the Honorable Karen Camper  
Tennessee General Assembly**