ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Proclamation

DISABILITY VOTING RIGHTS WEEK

WHEREAS, there are over 61 million adults with disabilities living in communities throughout the United States; with over 1.6 million adults with disabilities residing in Virginia; and over 14,000 living in Arlington County; and

WHEREAS, the disability community has a critical interest in policies and decisions made and enacted at local, state, and national levels that impact their lives directly and more than 38 million Americans with disabilities are eligible voters; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that people with disabilities have access to voting is essential if these policies are to meet the real needs of people with disabilities in our communities; and

WHEREAS, voting is one sure way for the disability community to have a say in the decisions and policies that impact their communities; and

WHEREAS, REV UP Virginia, which stands for "Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power!" is the statewide effort to build the power of disabled Virginians; and

WHEREAS, REV UP Virginia, is planning events across the Commonwealth of Virginia to celebrate Disability Voting Rights during the week of Sept 11-15, including George Mason University on September 14;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Christian Dorsey, Chair of the County Board of Arlington, Virginia, do hereby proclaim that the week of September 11-15, 2023, be designated as

DISABILITY VOTING RIGHTS WEEK

in Arlington to support the growing involvement of the disability community in the political process.

Christian Dorsey

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Chair