



## The Center for Disability Empowerment

*Providing Resources and Advocacy for Community Living in Central Ohio*

September 24, 2018

Dear Chairman Burke, Vice-Chair Beagle, Ranking Member Tavares and members of the Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee,

The Center for Disability Empowerment supports SCR 18, which urges Congress to adopt an international symbol of access which more effectively and accurately portrays the disability community.

The Center for Disability Empowerment is a community based, non-residential Center for Independent Living that is driven by the choice and direction of people with disabilities. Our goal is to provide support and resources for individuals with disabilities to be participants and contributors in their communities as they live, learn, worship, work and play alongside people who do not have disabilities. It is important that on the local, state and federal level people who have disabilities are viewed as capable citizens regardless of their disability. This new international symbol conveys this powerful message.

Thank you, in advance, for your proactive move to encourage adoption of the symbol.

Sincerely,

Susan Hetrick  
Executive Director