

TASK FORCE TALK

BY JAMES SKOUFIS, CHAIR
N.Y.S. ASSEMBLY TASK FORCE
ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

As the Chair of the Assembly Task Force on People with Disabilities, I am very pleased to invite *Able* Readers to this year's New York State Assembly Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day (LDAD), which is being held in Albany on Wednesday, May 30. Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day traditionally starts with the opening ceremony at 10 a.m. in the Well of the Legislative Office Building (LOB). Several organizations that serve people with disabilities will present their programs, services and products that strive to make the lives of people with disabilities easier.



The exhibits will remain open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Well of the LOB. In addition, there will be two seminars on issues of interest to the New York's disability community. Attendees will also be invited to enjoy the luncheon that we will be providing for everyone who joins us. Along with visiting the exhibitor fair and seminars, we also invite all LDAD participants to join our New York State Assembly session, where we plan to take up important measures on such issues as disability rights, housing and emergency preparedness.

We encourage all LDAD participants to come and advocate because attending the Assembly session is a great way to demonstrate support for the measures that you believe in. In fact, the legislative package that we plan to advance on LDAD has been derived, in great part, from the advocacy efforts of many of you.

Furthermore, we will also be displaying our annual poster contest artwork created by students in kindergarten through fifth grade. This contest is held to educate today's children about both the challenges that people with disabilities face and the contributions they make. We know that making tomorrow's leaders more understanding of people's differences will lead our next generation to recognize and fight discrimination in a way we never thought possible.

I truly hope that you will join us at the 2018 Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day. If you have any questions or would like additional information, or if you will require any special assistance to attend, please contact Kimberly Hill, director of the Task Force on People with Disabilities, 518 455-4592.

If you are planning to attend LDAD, please give us a call to register and help us keep a count of how many people will be attending. I look forward to seeing you on May 30.