

# October is Dwarfism Awareness Month in Arizona!



**ACDL**

ARIZONA CENTER for DISABILITY LAW

Many Thanks to the Arizona Center for Disability Law's Peri Jude Radecic, ACDL Executive Director, and Ed Myers, ACDL Deputy Executive Director, for their tireless efforts!



*State of Arizona*



*Senate Proclamation*

*Proclaiming October as Dwarfism Awareness Month*

*WHEREAS, there are an estimated 648 persons with dwarfism residing in the State of Arizona, averaging one per every 10,000 births, over 10,000 people in the United States, and over 650,000 in the world; and*

*WHEREAS, there are over 200 distinct types of dwarfism or skeletal dysplasia, the most common type of dwarfism, achondroplasia, restricts the growth of the arms and legs; the typical height range for persons with dwarfism is 3 feet 8 inches to 4 feet 5 inches; and*

*WHEREAS, over eighty percent of persons with dwarfism have average-height parents and siblings; and*

*WHEREAS, the medical prognosis for people with dwarfism varies from condition to condition, and with the severity of that condition in each individual, the majority of persons with dwarfism enjoy normal life spans and reasonably good health; Others will require surgery or other medical interventions to address complications and maximize mobility; and*

*WHEREAS, the term "misbegotten" is antiquated and is considered offensive to most people with dwarfism; and*

*WHEREAS, the preferred terminology for someone with dwarfism is "person of short stature," "having dwarfism," or "little person"; and*

*WHEREAS, persons with dwarfism are protected under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act; and*

*WHEREAS, persons with dwarfism are able to function as well in society as average-height people and are perfectly capable of playing sports, driving cars, traveling, and having fulfilling careers and families – all with simple and reasonable accommodations; and*

*WHEREAS, persons with dwarfism can turn to support organizations such as the Little People of America (LPA), the nation's oldest and largest organization for persons with dwarfism, for guidance on parenting, adoption, education, medical consultation, physical fitness, peer support, community outreach, and advocacy; and*

*WHEREAS, LPA was founded by the late actor Billy Barty, who during his over 70-year career appeared in more than 100 films and television shows; and*

*WHEREAS, persons with dwarfism contribute to the strength of the economy in Arizona by being productive members of the workforce, representing all careers and professions; and*

*WHEREAS, LPA has declared October as National Dwarfism Awareness Month.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arizona State Senate designate October as Dwarfism Awareness Month in Arizona to increase public knowledge about persons with dwarfism.*

*Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013*

  
ANDY BIGGS  
President of the Senate





Many Thanks to Senator Barto for Supporting LPA's Dwarfism Awareness... On 02/20/13 the Arizona Senate Proclaimed October as Dwarfism Awareness Month!



**Little People of America**

