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**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO ON TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

“Today we celebrate one of the most important civil rights laws in the history of this nation – the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Thanks to the fierce and unflagging work of disability rights advocates, many of whom waged the fight right here in New York City, we now live in a nation that is more equal, more integrated, and more open to all. Since its passage 25 years ago today, the ADA has improved access, broken down barriers to entry, and challenged stigma for all people with disabilities, making it possible for people with disabilities to exercise their rights to access transportation, visit cultural institutions, obtain employment and demand the quality of life to which every person is entitled. People with disabilities possess these rights regardless of whether they are a person with a mobility disability, a person who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing, a person who is Blind or has low vision, a person with a cognitive disability, or a person with a mental health disability. We take this important anniversary as an opportunity to reaffirm our unwavering commitment to preserve the rights of people with disabilities and continue pushing for full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for all. Happy birthday, ADA!”

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