



Join the USBLN[®] in Celebrating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities by Appealing to the U.S. Senate to Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

For Immediate Release
December 3, 2013

Contact: Anita Howard
Phone: (800) 706-2710
anita@usbln.org

WASHINGTON, DC (December 3, 2013) – Today, the US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®]) joins the global community in celebrating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. In the spirit of this year’s theme, “Break Barriers, Open Doors: for an inclusive society and development for all”, the USBLN[®] joins with the U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD) in calling on the United States Senate to support the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). This international disability treaty will promote global commerce and U.S. business leadership in international markets, advance equal access and opportunity, and ensure greater global community inclusion for people with disabilities worldwide.

Inspired by U.S. leadership in recognizing the rights of people with disabilities, the treaty serves as a vital framework for creating legislation and policies around the world that embrace the rights and dignity of all people with disabilities. By joining over 130 countries and ratifying this treaty, the United States has an opportunity to have a seat at the table in developing these policies, and to share our “gold standard” in disability rights, the Americans with Disabilities Act, as a model upon which other countries creating legislation with regard to people with disabilities.

Jill Houghton, USBLN[®] Executive Director and USICD board member shared, “The International Day of Persons with Disabilities is a day for celebration not only by people with disabilities, but for everyone who supports opportunity and equality. That is why we support U.S. ratification of the Disability Treaty. More than 50 U.S. member corporations have signed on to the USBLN[®]’s letter supporting ratification. We can be sure it’s a day to celebrate.” To view the letter please visit: [[DOC](#) | [PDF](#)]

The USBLN[®] continues to work in partnership with USICD to seek the support of business and welcomes more signatures to the business sign-on letter referenced above.

About the US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®])

The US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®]) is a national non-profit that helps business drive performance by leveraging disability inclusion in the workplace, supply chain, and marketplace. The USBLN[®] serves as the collective voice of nearly 50 Business Leadership Network affiliates across the United States, representing over 5,000 businesses. Additionally, the USBLN[®] Disability Supplier Diversity Program[®] (DSDP) is the nation’s leading third party certification program for disability-owned businesses, including businesses owned by service-disabled veterans. www.usbln.org

####