

For Immediate Release

Contact: Vicki Dunham, Chief Operating Officer
vdunham@somt.org
Special Olympics Montana
406.216.5327 Ext. 116
www.somt.org



**Special Olympics Athlete Kyler Morrison
Conceives
Montanans with Developmental Disabilities Week
May 8-14, 2011**

(May 9, 2011) Kyler Morrison, Whitefish, has successfully lobbied the 62nd Montana Legislature to establish Montanans with Disabilities Week annually every second week in May. House Joint Resolution No. 5, introduced by Keith Regier (R-Kalispell), designates the week in observation of full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into society.

Regier stated that his inspiration for the bill was Kyler Morrison, a Special Olympics Montana athlete and member of the Special Olympics Montana Board of Directors. The genesis for the Montanans with Developmental Disabilities Week was borne of Morrison's lifelong experience as a person with a developmental disability. Himself an active member of his community, Morrison believes that people with developmental disabilities can and do make meaningful contributions to their communities and to society as a whole.

The Resolution states that Developmental Disabilities Week is timely and necessary, and encourages all people, school districts, community colleges, cities and counties, public and private institutions of higher education, state and local agencies, nonprofit and community-based organizations, and private businesses and corporations to observe Montanans with Developmental Disabilities Week by declaring appropriate classroom instructional time or by coordinating all inclusive activities during the designated week.

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