

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing April 21, 2023, as Autism After 21 Day in the  
2 Commonwealth of Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, every 11 minutes a child is born in the United States who will be  
4 diagnosed with autism; and

5 WHEREAS, currently, these autistic children will spend the majority of their lives  
6 as adults in a world of few opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, in the next four years, over 200,000 people on the autism spectrum  
8 will turn 21, which is the age at which federally mandated services end; and

9 WHEREAS, those autistic adults will join the millions of adults with disabilities  
10 who face decades-long waitlists for residential services and little or no opportunity for  
11 employment or social interaction; and

12 WHEREAS, some adults on the autism spectrum need little, if any, support, and the  
13 General Assembly wishes to encourage their self-determination and independence; and

14 WHEREAS, attention is needed to acknowledge the many adults on the autism  
15 spectrum who are navigating adulthood and wanting to reach their full potential; and

16 WHEREAS, autistic adults deserve access to the goals established by the  
17 Americans with Disabilities Act, including equal opportunity, full participation,  
18 independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and

19 WHEREAS, Lifeworks at Western Kentucky University is a two-year transition to  
20 work autism program for young adults to prepare for employment and independent  
21 living;

22 NOW, THEREFORE,

23 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
24 ***Kentucky:***

25 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby applauds the efforts of professionals who have  
26 dedicated their lives to improving services and supports for those living on the autism  
27 spectrum, and recognizes April 21, 2023, as Autism After 21 Day in the Commonwealth

1 of Kentucky.

2       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
3 Resolution to Mary Lloyd Moore, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, Director, Suzanne Vitale Clinical  
4 Education Complex, Western Kentucky University, 104 Alumni Drive, Bowling Green,  
5 Kentucky 42101, and to the members of the Kentucky Congressional delegation.