

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing April 2, 2024, as World Autism Awareness Day and
2 April 2024 as Autism Acceptance Month.

3 WHEREAS, autism disorders affect persons regardless of race, religion,
4 socioeconomic status, or geography; and

5 WHEREAS, autism is the fastest-growing developmental disorder in the United
6 States, with one in 36 children being diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

7 WHEREAS, there are over five million people in the United States with autism and,
8 as of 2019, over 80,000 Kentuckians diagnosed with autism; and

9 WHEREAS, autism disorders are lifelong conditions that require support, training,
10 assistance, and advocacy on behalf of those individuals who suffer from such disorders;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, on December 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted
13 a resolution declaring World Autism Awareness Day by unanimous consent; and

14 WHEREAS, the Autism Society of Kentucky understands the importance of
15 fostering acceptance in order to achieve equity in education, employment, housing, health
16 care, and comprehensive long-term services and supports; and

17 WHEREAS, the Autism Society of Kentucky provides education and understanding
18 to promote acceptance, inspire inclusion, and create systems-wide change for individuals
19 with autism so they may achieve full participation within society; and

20 WHEREAS, policies need to be implemented that break down barriers for
21 individuals with autism so they may succeed in their chosen communities; and

22 WHEREAS, the aims for World Autism Awareness Day are to inform the general
23 public about the global health crisis of autism disorders, stress the importance of early
24 diagnosis and early intervention, and celebrate the unique talents and qualities of
25 individuals with autism disorders; and

26 WHEREAS, April is recognized as Autism Acceptance Month to increase
27 awareness about autism signs and symptoms and promote acceptance of individuals with

1 autism; and

2 WHEREAS, during April 2024, the aim of Autism Acceptance Month is to
3 celebrate differences and build an inclusive society for individuals with autism to live
4 fully through connection and acceptance;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
7 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives, both individually and
9 collectively, hereby recognize April 2, 2024, as World Autism Awareness Day and April
10 2024 as Autism Acceptance Month.

11 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives urges the citizens of the
12 Commonwealth of Kentucky to become informed of the need for services, support, and
13 treatments for individuals with autism disorders.

14 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
15 copy of this Resolution to Representative Tina Bojanowski.