

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing April 2, 2026, as World Autism Awareness Day and
2 April 2026 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 approximately one in 35 children being diagnosed with autism spectrum
7 disorder; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 WHEREAS, April is recognized as Autism Acceptance Month to increase

1 awareness about autism signs and symptoms, celebrate differences, and build an inclusive
2 society for individuals with autism to live fully through connection and acceptance;

3 NOW, THEREFORE,

4 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
5 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

6 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby recognize
7 April 2, 2026, as World Autism Awareness Day and April 2026 as Autism Acceptance
8 Month.

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

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