



HR0269

LRB100 12075 MST 24590 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders can affect all  
3 individuals regardless of racial, ethnic, economic, and social  
4 groups; and

5 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
6 (CDC) estimates that one in seven children in the United States  
7 have a developmental disability, ranging from mild  
8 disabilities such as speech and language impairments to serious  
9 developmental disabilities, such as intellectual disabilities,  
10 cerebral palsy, and autism; and

11 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders are more common than  
12 pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined; and

13 WHEREAS, Studies in Asia, Europe, and North America have  
14 identified individuals with an autism spectrum disorder, with  
15 an average prevalence of about 1%; a recent study in South  
16 Korea reported a prevalence of 2.6%; and

17 WHEREAS, According to estimates from CDC's Autism and  
18 Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, about one in 68  
19 children has been identified with an autism spectrum disorder;  
20 and

1           WHEREAS, The cause of autism spectrum disorders is still  
2 unknown, but research strongly suggests that it is caused by  
3 certain factors that affect brain development; and

4           WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders have increased tenfold  
5 in the last decade and now occur in some form in one in 42 boys  
6 in the United States; and

7           WHEREAS, Autism, which is five times more common among boys  
8 than girls, usually appears during the first three years of  
9 life; and

10          WHEREAS, Early diagnosis, research, training, education,  
11 and therapies are vital to reducing the effects of autism; and

12          WHEREAS, Current research suspects that there is not a  
13 single cause that will ultimately be discovered, but rather a  
14 cluster of factors which include genetics, pregnancy/birth  
15 complications, viral infections, metabolic disorders,  
16 congenital anomaly syndrome (birth defects), and environmental  
17 toxins; therefore, be it

18          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
19 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
20 declare April of 2017 and 2018 as "Autism Awareness Month" in  
21 the State of Illinois for the purpose of urging both government

1 entities and the citizenry to become aware and educated on the  
2 subject of autism spectrum disorders; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to The Autism Program of Illinois.