



HR0821

LRB104 21516 ECR 36860 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a
3 neurodevelopmental condition characterized by challenges with
4 social communication, restricted interests, and repetitive
5 behaviors, making it challenging for those with autism to
6 relate to the world around them; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
8 Prevention, approximately one in 31 children, about 3.2%, in
9 the U.S. has ASD, and one in 45 adults in the U.S. has autism,
10 equating into approximately 5.4 to 5.5 million adults living
11 with autism and representing over 2% of the adult population
12 in the U.S.; and

13 WHEREAS, Over the past several years, significant progress
14 has been made in the areas of research, diagnostic practice,
15 and therapy for individuals with autism; early and appropriate
16 intervention can result in significant improvements in quality
17 of life, independent functioning, and a reduction in care
18 costs; and

19 WHEREAS, It is imperative that Illinois adopt public
20 policies that reduce the burdens on families caring for people
21 with autism and that allow people with autism to reach their
22 full potential and self-sufficiency; and

1 WHEREAS, The 104th General Assembly, recognizing that
2 those policies will help those with autism and their families,
3 has formed the bipartisan, bicameral Illinois Legislative
4 Neurodiversity Caucus, a first-of-its-kind caucus in Illinois
5 history that will include input from the entire State; and

6 WHEREAS, The work done by the Illinois Legislative
7 Neurodiversity Caucus will focus on the four cornerstones of
8 support, access, resources, and education; and

9 WHEREAS, The Illinois Legislative Neurodiversity Caucus
10 will include and welcome input from the neurodivergent,
11 healthcare professionals, employers, educators, advocates,
12 caregivers, and families; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we declare April 2026 as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month
16 in the State of Illinois to help increase public awareness of
17 the need to support individuals with autism and the family
18 members, medical professionals, and human services
19 professionals who help care for individuals with autism.