



HR0616

LRB103 39312 ECR 69466 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Autism is a general term used to describe a complex group of neurological conditions known as autism spectrum disorders, which are characterized by atypical development in socialization, communication, and behavior, making it challenging for those with autism to relate to the world around them; and

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WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder, and one out of every 59 American children born today will be diagnosed with autism; and

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WHEREAS, Approximately two-thirds of children with autism between the ages of 6 and 15 have been the victims of bullying; and

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

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WHEREAS, It is imperative that Illinois adopt public

1 policies that reduce the burdens on families caring for people
2 with autism and that allow people with autism to reach their
3 full potential and self-sufficiency; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we declare April 2024 as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month
7 in the State of Illinois to help increase public awareness of
8 the need to support individuals with autism and the family
9 members, medical professionals, and human services
10 professionals who help care for individuals with autism.