



HR0314

LRB099 11550 GRL 32979 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, About 1 in 7 children in the United States had a
6 developmental disability in the period of 2006-2008, ranging
7 from mild disabilities such as speech and language impairments
8 to serious developmental disabilities, such as intellectual
9 disabilities, cerebral palsy, and autism; and

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

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

16 WHEREAS, About 1 in 68 children has been identified with an
17 autism spectrum disorder, according to estimates from CDC's
18 Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network; and

19 WHEREAS, The cause of autism spectrum disorders is still
20 unknown, but research strongly suggests that it is caused by

1 certain factors that affect brain development; and

2 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders have increased tenfold
3 in the last decade and now occurs in some form in 1 in 42 boys
4 in the United States; and

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

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

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

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
18 designate April of 2015 and 2016 as Autism Awareness Month in
19 the State of Illinois for the purpose of urging both government
20 entities and the citizenry to become aware and educated on the
21 subject of autism spectrum disorders.