

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing April 21 as Autism After 21 Day in the
2 Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, every 11 minutes a child is born in the United States who will be
4 diagnosed with autism; and

5 WHEREAS, currently, those autistic children will spend the majority of their lives
6 as adults in a world of few opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, in the next four years, over 200,000 people on the autism spectrum
8 will turn 21, which is the age at which federally mandated services end; and

9 WHEREAS, those autistic adults will join the millions of adults with disabilities
10 who face decades-long waitlists for residential services and little or no opportunity for
11 employment or social interaction; and

12 WHEREAS, some adults on the autism spectrum need few, if any, supports, and the
13 General Assembly wishes to encourage their self-determination and independence;

14 WHEREAS, attention is needed to acknowledge the many adults on the autism
15 spectrum who are navigating adulthood and wanting to reach their full potential; and

16 WHEREAS, autistic adults deserve access to the goals established by the
17 Americans With Disabilities Act, including equal opportunity, full participation,
18 independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and

19 WHEREAS, Autism After 21, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to
20 improving life skills in an independent setting for adults with autism;

21 NOW, THEREFORE,

22 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
23 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

24 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives applauds the efforts of professionals
25 who have dedicated their lives to improving services and supports for those living on the
26 autism spectrum, and recognizes April 21 as Autism After 21 Day in the Commonwealth.

27 ➔Section 2. The Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Mary

- 1 Lloyd Moore, Ed.D., CCC-SLP, Director, Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex,
- 2 Clinical Associate Professor, Western Kentucky University, 104 Alumni Drive, Bowling
- 3 Green, Kentucky 42101, the members of the Kentucky congressional delegation