

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing April 2, 2023, as World Autism Awareness Day and
2 April 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month.

3 WHEREAS, autism disorders affect persons regardless of race, religion,
4 socioeconomic status, or geography; and

5 WHEREAS, autism is the fastest-growing developmental disorder in the United
6 States, with 1 in 36 children being diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and

7 WHEREAS, there are over 5 million people in the United States with autism and, as
8 of 2019, over 80,000 Kentuckians diagnosed with autism; and

9 WHEREAS, autism disorders are lifelong conditions that require support, training,
10 assistance, and advocacy on behalf of those individuals who suffer from such disorders;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, in 1972, the Autism Society, the nation's oldest grassroots autism
13 organization, launched National Autistic Children's week, which grew into Autism
14 Awareness Month; and

15 WHEREAS, on December 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted
16 a resolution declaring World Autism Awareness Day by unanimous consent, encouraging
17 United Nations member states to take measures to raise awareness about autism disorders
18 throughout society and to promote early diagnosis and early behavioral intervention; and

19 WHEREAS, the aims for World Autism Awareness Day are to inform the general
20 public about the global health crisis of autism disorders, stress the importance of early
21 diagnosis and early intervention, and celebrate the unique talents and qualities of
22 individuals with autism disorders; and

23 WHEREAS, April is recognized as Autism Acceptance Month to increase
24 awareness about autism signs and symptoms and promote acceptance of individuals with
25 autism; and

26 WHEREAS, during April 2023, the aim of Autism Acceptance Month is to
27 celebrate differences and build an inclusive society for individuals with autism to live

1 fully through connection and acceptance;

2 NOW, THEREFORE,

3 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
4 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

5 ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives, both individually and
6 collectively, hereby recognize April 2, 2023, as World Autism Awareness Day and April
7 2023 as Autism Acceptance Month.

8 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives urges the citizens of the
9 Commonwealth of Kentucky to become informed of the need for services, support, and
10 treatments for individuals with autism disorders.

11 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
12 copy of this Resolution to Representative Tina Bojanowski.