
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 53 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY SABATINA, DINNIMAN, BOSCOLA, FARNESE, BARTOLOTTA,
BLAKE, FOLMER, FONTANA, BROWNE, BREWSTER, SCHWANK, BAKER,
STREET, HUGHES, PHILLIPS-HILL, AUMENT, MENSCH, COSTA,
KILLION, HAYWOOD, J. WARD AND YUDICHAK, MARCH 25, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 25, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2019 as "Autism Acceptance Month"
2 and April 2, 2019, as "World Autism Awareness Day" in
3 Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorder is a complex disability
5 requiring greater recognition, understanding and acceptance to
6 ensure that all individuals living with autism spectrum disorder
7 are accurately diagnosed and appropriately supported throughout
8 their lives; and

9 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorder is a developmental
10 disability resulting in varying levels of impairment of an
11 individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive
12 behaviors and understand verbal, nonverbal and reciprocal
13 communication; and

14 WHEREAS, Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and
15 is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently
16 and to varying degrees; and

17 WHEREAS, There is no known single cause of autism, but

1 increased awareness, funding and acceptance can help families
2 today; and

3 WHEREAS, Although a cure for autism spectrum disorder has not
4 been found, individuals living with autism spectrum disorder can
5 be assisted in reaching their greatest potential through
6 accurate early diagnosis, appropriate education and
7 intervention; and

8 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and
9 Prevention, approximately 1 in 59 American children are living
10 with autism spectrum disorder; and

11 WHEREAS, The number of adults living with autism spectrum
12 disorder is expected to increase dramatically over the next few
13 years as adolescents age into adulthood; and

14 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Services created the Office
15 of Developmental Programs, which includes the Bureau of Autism
16 Services, to provide expertise and support for all agencies
17 serving Pennsylvanians living with autism spectrum disorder;
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2019
20 as "Autism Acceptance Month" and April 2, 2019, as "World Autism
21 Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania and urge the observance of both
22 throughout this Commonwealth for the benefit of all individuals
23 living with autism spectrum disorder and their families.