



HR0205

LRB100 11866 MST 23396 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders can affect all
3 individuals regardless of racial, ethnic, economic, or social
4 group; and

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

7 WHEREAS, The cause of autism spectrum disorders is still
8 unknown, but research strongly suggests that it is caused by
9 certain factors that affect brain development; and

10 WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders have increased tenfold
11 in the last decade and now occur in some form in one in 42 boys
12 in the United States; and

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

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

18 WHEREAS, Current research suspects that there is not a
19 single cause that will ultimately be discovered, but rather a

1 cluster of factors which include genetics, pregnancy/birth
2 complications, viral infections, metabolic disorders,
3 congenital anomaly syndrome (birth defects), and environmental
4 toxins; and

5 WHEREAS, In 2003, The Hope Institute for Children and
6 Families worked with the General Assembly to create The Autism
7 Program of Illinois; and

8 WHEREAS, The Autism Program of Illinois has grown to become
9 the nation's largest statewide network that not only helps
10 families affected by autism, but also trains educators, and
11 links healthcare providers and others to understand,
12 communicate with and support children diagnosed with an autism
13 spectrum disorder; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
16 declare April of 2017 as Autism Awareness Month in the State of
17 Illinois for the purpose of urging both government entities and
18 the citizenry to become aware and educated on the subject of
19 autism spectrum disorders; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the Autism Program of Illinois.