



HR1131

LRB095 20518 GRL 48439 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Developmental disabilities are defined as those  
3 disabilities caused by intellectual or cognitive disability,  
4 autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or any other condition which  
5 results in impairment similar to that of intellectual  
6 disability (formerly known as mental retardation), which  
7 originates before the age of 18 and is expected to continue  
8 indefinitely; and

9           WHEREAS, Approximately 1.8 percent of the U.S. population  
10 is afflicted with a developmental disability and one in 150  
11 children will be diagnosed with autism; and

12           WHEREAS, Every individual with a developmental disability  
13 has the right to live with dignity, to achieve their highest  
14 potential, and to be included in our communities; and

15           WHEREAS, The Autism Society of Illinois, The ARC of  
16 Illinois, the Family Support Network, Giant Steps Illinois, and  
17 Autism Speaks are not-for-profit organizations dedicated to  
18 the purpose of supporting individuals with developmental  
19 disabilities; and

20           WHEREAS, The mission of the Autism Society of Illinois is  
21 to promote through advocacy, public awareness, education, and

1 research, lifelong access and opportunities for persons within  
2 the autism spectrum disorder and their families in order that  
3 they may be fully included, participating members of their  
4 communities; and

5 WHEREAS, The mission of the Arc of Illinois is to empower  
6 persons with disabilities to achieve full participation in  
7 community life through informed choices; and

8 WHEREAS, The mission of the Family Support Network is to  
9 unify individuals with disabilities and their families to  
10 advocate for funding, services, and community resources that  
11 strengthen and support the individual and the family directly  
12 by responding to their individual needs and empowering them to  
13 live in their own homes; the Family Support Network further  
14 seeks to ensure the continuation of all individual supports  
15 throughout the life span of the individual; and

16 WHEREAS, The mission of Giant Steps Illinois is to improve  
17 a child's ability to interact, communicate, and develop  
18 academic and daily living skills; and

19 WHEREAS, The mission of Autism Speaks is to change the  
20 future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders; and

21 WHEREAS, Hundreds of persons with developmental

1 disabilities and their families will convene in the Illinois  
2 State Capitol on April 15, 2008, to show their support for  
3 legislation, funding, and policies that support individuals  
4 with developmental disabilities, including autism, and that  
5 promote self-determination and inclusion in our communities;  
6 therefore, be it

7       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
9 do hereby proclaim April 15, 2008, as Developmental Disability  
10 and Autism Family Day at the Illinois State Capitol; and be it  
11 further

12       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the Autism Society of Illinois, The ARC of  
14 Illinois, the Family Support Network, Giant Steps Illinois, and  
15 Autism Speaks as an expression of our esteem.