

State of Wisconsin



2017 Assembly Joint Resolution 26

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming April 2017 as Autism Awareness Month in Wisconsin.

Whereas, autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a range of neurodevelopmental conditions characterized by impaired social interactions, restricted and repetitive behaviors, and speech and nonverbal communication problems, as well as by unique strengths and differences; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 1 in 68, or 1.5 percent, of school-aged children have ASD. This includes 1 in 42 boys and 1 in 189 girls; and

Whereas, it is estimated that more than 3.5 million Americans have ASD; and

Whereas, ASD can take an emotional, physical, and financial toll on the families and children affected; and

Whereas, research shows that early diagnosis of ASD and early intervention can reduce symptoms and lead to significantly improved outcomes; and

Whereas, many children with ASD who receive early and ongoing treatment learn communication skills that allow them to attend school, make friends, and participate in their communities; and

Whereas, early detection and treatment for autistic infants and children also benefits Wisconsin taxpayers by reducing the costs of support services they might otherwise require later in life; and

Whereas, the most obvious signs of ASD typically appear between two and three years of age, but less than half of children with ASD receive developmental evaluations by age three; and

Whereas, increased awareness of ASD and its effects is vital to ensure that everyone knows the warning signs and the importance of early detection and treatment; and

Whereas, the Autism Awareness Puzzle Ribbon is the most recognized symbol of the ASD community in the world; and

Whereas, April is nationally recognized as Autism Awareness Month and April 2 is recognized as World Autism Awareness Day; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature hereby proclaims April 2017 as Autism Awareness Month in Wisconsin.

Senator Roger Roth
President of the Senate

Representative Robin J. Vos
Speaker of the Assembly

Date

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk