
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 80 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY COSTA, APRIL 15, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, APRIL 15, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of April 2015 as "Autism Awareness Month"
2 and April 2, 2015, as "World Autism Day" in Pennsylvania.

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

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

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

16 WHEREAS, There is no known single cause of autism, but
17 increased awareness and funding can help families today; and

18 WHEREAS, Although a cure for autism spectrum disorder has not

1 been found, individuals living with autism spectrum disorder can
2 be assisted in reaching their greatest potential through
3 accurate early diagnosis, appropriate education and
4 intervention; and

5 WHEREAS, Nationally, approximately 1 in 68 children born in
6 the United States are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder;
7 and

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

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

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of April 2015
17 as "Autism Awareness Month" and April 2, 2015, as "World Autism
18 Day" in Pennsylvania and urge its observance throughout this
19 Commonwealth for the benefit of all individuals living with
20 autism spectrum disorder and their families.