

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

HR 1024

4
5 By: Representative D. Ferguson

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO PROCLAIM APRIL 2021 AS AUTISM AWARENESS AND
9 ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN ARKANSAS.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO PROCLAIM APRIL 2021 AS AUTISM
14 AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE MONTH IN
15 ARKANSAS.

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17 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas is committed to educating all children
18 and fostering all children's abilities to achieve their unique potential; and
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20 WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder represents a broad range of
21 conditions that vary widely from mild to severe, and is characterized by
22 unique social interactions, nonstandard ways of learning, keen interests in
23 specific subjects, inclination to routines, challenges in verbal and
24 nonverbal communication, and particular ways of processing sensory
25 information; and
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27 WHEREAS, autism is four (4) times more likely to occur in boys than in
28 girls, and is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic
29 groups; and
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31 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
32 determined that approximately one (1) in fifty-nine (59) children is
33 diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder; and
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35 WHEREAS, early intervention affords the best opportunity to support
36 healthy development and deliver benefits across a life span to improve



1 learning, communication, and social skills, as well as underlying brain
2 development; and

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4 WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution on
5 December 18, 2007, to designate April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day, to be
6 observed every year; and

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8 WHEREAS, many organizations and foundations are working across the
9 country and state to create and promote opportunities for people with autism
10 spectrum disorder through advocacy, education, the creation of economic
11 opportunities, and humanitarian efforts,

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13 NOW THEREFORE,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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17 THAT the House of Representatives proclaim April 2021 as Autism
18 Awareness and Acceptance Month in Arkansas.

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