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S.R. No. 381

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, April is World Autism Month, and April 4, 2023, is
2 being set aside as Texas Autism Advocacy Day at the State Capitol,
3 providing a fitting opportunity to honor the Autism Society of
4 America and the Autism Society of Texas for their outstanding work
5 to promote better understanding of autism; and

6 WHEREAS, Autism is a complex, lifelong developmental
7 condition that typically appears during early childhood, and it can
8 impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and
9 self-regulation; according to the Centers for Disease Control and
10 Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring
11 Network, about 1 in every 44 children in the United States is
12 identified with autism spectrum disorder, compared with 1 in 150
13 three decades ago; and

14 WHEREAS, One of the oldest autism-focused grassroots
15 organizations in the United States, ASA launched a nationwide
16 effort in 1970 to promote autism awareness and improve the quality
17 of life for those affected by the disorder; the organization went on
18 to establish a branch in Texas in 1990, and since then, ASA and AST
19 have supported and empowered countless Texans through initiatives
20 such as the Navigating Autism helpline, in-person and virtual
21 support groups, and education and advocacy efforts; today, the
22 organizations have expanded their missions to emphasize the
23 importance of promoting inclusivity and accepting those in the
24 autism community; and

1 WHEREAS, The cause of autism is unknown, but therapy and
2 support services can dramatically improve outcomes; early
3 diagnosis and intervention are crucial to help people living with
4 autism use their skills and talents to reach their full potential;
5 now, therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the 88th Texas Legislature
7 hereby recognize April 4, 2023, as Texas Autism Advocacy Day at the
8 State Capitol and encourage all Texans to learn more about autism;
9 and, be it further

10 RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared
11 for the Autism Society of America and the Autism Society of Texas as
12 an expression of high regard by the Texas Senate.