

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 271

**WHEREAS,** Profound autism is a subtype of autism spectrum disorder characterized by severe intellectual disability and significant difficulties with communication; and

**WHEREAS,** The tasks of daily living may be especially challenging for children and adults with profound autism, and they require around-the-clock supervision and assistance from an adult caregiver throughout their lives; many are nonverbal and may need various therapies and interventions to improve their overall development and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS,** According to a study published by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2023, profound autism affects approximately one in every four children with autism; compared to children with non-profound autism, children with profound autism are more likely to be female, to be from racial and ethnic minority groups, to be of low socioeconomic status, and to be born preterm or with low birth weight; these children are also more likely to exhibit self-injurious behaviors, to experience seizure disorders, and to have lower adaptive scores than their peers; and

**WHEREAS,** Despite the prevalence of the condition, people with profound autism are frequently excluded from home- and community-based services due to their intensive support needs, leaving caregivers with few options to help them manage or cope with their responsibilities; a 2019 study conducted by the CDC also found that only six percent of clinical research studies included people with profound autism as participants; and

**WHEREAS,** People living with profound autism and their caregivers often face isolation in our communities, and it is

important that we work together to promote greater support and inclusion, as well as greater consideration of their unique needs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby recognize March 17, 2025, as Profound Autism Awareness Day and encourage Texans to learn more about profound autism.

Parker

Birdwell	Eckhardt	Miles
Blanco	Flores	Paxton
Cook	Hinojosa of Hidalgo	West
Creighton	Kolkhorst	Zaffirini

Patrick, President of the Senate

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 18, 2025.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate