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R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Since the 1970s, April has been set aside as National Autism Awareness Month in order to inform the public about autism and issues within the autism community; and

WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorder and autism are general terms for a group of complex disorders of brain development; they are characterized by varying levels of difficulty in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication, and repetitive behaviors; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in every 59 children is affected by autism, compared with 1 in 150 in 2000; the Autism Society calculates that more than 3.5 million Americans of all ages live with an autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, The cause of this disorder is unknown, but behavioral intervention can dramatically improve outcomes; early diagnosis and intervention are crucial to ensure effective treatment that can help these valuable members of society use their skills and talents to reach their full potential; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas Legislature hereby recognize April 2019 as Autism Awareness Month and encourage all Texans to learn more about autism spectrum disorder.