By: Hinojosa

H.R. No. 312

RESOLUTION

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 impact a person's social skills, communication, relationships, and 8 self-regulation; according to the Centers for Disease Control and 9 Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring 10 11 Network, about 1 in every 44 children in the United States is 12 identified with autism spectrum disorder, compared with 1 in 150 three decades ago; and 13

WHEREAS, One of the oldest autism-focused grassroots 14 organizations in the United States, ASA launched a nationwide 15 16 effort in 1970 to promote autism awareness and improve the quality of life for those affected by the disorder; the organization went on 17 18 to establish a branch in Texas in 1990, and since then, ASA and AST have supported and empowered countless Texans through initiatives 19 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

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

10 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be 11 prepared for the Autism Society of America and the Autism Society of 12 Texas as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of 13 Representatives.

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