

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating April 1-7, 2018, as "Autism
3 Awareness Week" in Florida.
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5 WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a lifelong
6 developmental disability resulting in the impairment of an
7 individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive
8 behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal
9 communication, and

10 WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder
11 affecting brain function, and although it affects millions
12 nationwide, including one in every 68 children, few understand
13 this complex disorder, and

14 WHEREAS, children with autism have a variety of symptoms
15 and disabilities, and

16 WHEREAS, children with autism have been excluded from
17 participation in sports and extracurricular activities because
18 of their symptoms and disabilities, and

19 WHEREAS, participation in athletic training helps refine
20 motor skills, improve communication, teach sportsmanship,
21 increase social interactions, develop behavior management, boost
22 self-esteem, and promote physical fitness, and

23 WHEREAS, research continues with the goal of understanding
24 and finding treatment options to help those affected by this
25 complex neurological disorder and efforts continue to provide

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26 | families with education, awareness, and acceptance, NOW,
27 | THEREFORE,

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29 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
30 | Florida:

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32 | That April 1-7, 2018, is designated as "Autism Awareness
33 | Week" in Florida and that all residents are encouraged to engage
34 | children with autism in sports and extracurricular activities.