

SENATE RESOLUTION

8637

By Senator O'Ban

1 WHEREAS, Autism is a developmental disability that typically
2 appears during the first two years of life and continues through an
3 individual's lifespan, but typically is not diagnosed until after 4
4 years of age; and

5 WHEREAS, Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability
6 in the United States, affecting over 2 million Americans and 1 in 88
7 babies born; and

8 WHEREAS, 1 in 54 boys are affected, as opposed to 1 in 252 girls;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, There are many different characteristics in individuals
11 with autism, including delayed or deficient communication, decreased
12 or unresponsive social interaction, unusual reaction to normal
13 stimuli, a lack of spontaneous or imaginative play, and behavioral
14 challenges; and

15 WHEREAS, With aggressive and continuous therapy, some individuals
16 can learn to acclimate to their environment and mask their symptoms;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Applied Behavior Analysis has become widely accepted
19 among health care professionals and used as a treatment to improve a
20 variety of skills; and

21 WHEREAS, Autism can create significant stress on the families of
22 those affected by autism; and

1 WHEREAS, All individuals with autism should be included and
2 regarded as valuable members of our community, provided with
3 opportunities and supports to live, work, and play as
4 independently as possible; and

5 WHEREAS, Individuals with autism, their families,
6 caregivers, advocates, and organizations, are striving to bring
7 about positive changes for children and adults with autism; and

8 WHEREAS, Through research, training, public services,
9 support groups, advocacy, and increased awareness, we will be
10 more accepting, inclusive, and better equipped to support the
11 growing number of individuals with autism and their families;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, April is observed nationally as Autism Awareness
14 Month, and April 2nd has been declared World Autism Awareness
15 Day by the United Nations General Assembly;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
17 Senate honor and support individuals with autism during Autism
18 Awareness Month; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
20 immediately transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the
21 Honorable Jay Inslee.

22 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,
23 do hereby certify that this is a true and
24 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8637,
25 adopted by the Senate
26 March 28, 2017

27 HUNTER G. GOODMAN
28 Secretary of the Senate