



PROCLAMATION

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO PROCLAIMING APRIL 2015 AUTISM RECOGNITION MONTH

WHEREAS, autism and autism spectrum disorders are neurodevelopment disorders of unknown etiology that may cause significant impairments in language, communications, social interactions, abnormalities in behaviors, and other physical manifestations; and,

WHEREAS, autism is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in California, According to a new study just released, it suggests the developmental disorder is on the rise. Ten years ago, autism's estimated prevalence was 1 in 166. Today it's 1 in 68 – an increase of more than 100% in one decade.

WHEREAS, “The CDC’s new estimates of autism prevalence demand that we recognize autism as a public health emergency warranting immediate attention,” said Autism Speaks Chief Science Officer Geraldine Dawson, Ph.D. last year, “It is a crisis of epidemic proportions – and not just among children”; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013, the County of El Dorado joined with families and other autism advocates to announce its support for Assembly Bill 171 to require health insurance companies to cover the screening, diagnosis and treatment of pervasive developmental disorder or autism, and for SB 946, known as the “Autism Insurance Reform” bill to require health insurance coverage for behavioral health treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism; we are happy to report that SB 946 became law and many families are now being helped by this bill, and,

WHEREAS, no matter what you can do throughout Autism Awareness Month in April, we hope that you will help us shine a light on all of those individuals affected by autism out there! For the sixth year in a row, Autism Speaks will be hosting Light It Up Blue during World Autism Awareness in the month of April. Light It Up Blue is a campaign to honor people with autism worldwide. Each year thousands of buildings are lit up and events are held to help with the campaign! Change a light bulb at your home or at your business, or just wear something blue to help bring attention to the cause for helping to find a cure for Autism.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado find that they support the proposal of recognizing the Month of April as World Wide Autism Month.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does hereby proclaim the month of April 2015 as Autism Recognition Month in the County of El Dorado.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held this 14th day of April, 2015.

Attest:

James S. Mitrison
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
by:

Deputy Clerk

Brian K. Veerkamp, Chair, Board of Supervisors

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