

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 51st Legislature (2007)

3 SENATE  
4 RESOLUTION 32

By: Johnson (Mike)

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution declaring April 2007 Autism Awareness  
8 Month; and directing distribution.  
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10  
11 WHEREAS, autism can be a severely incapacitating, lifelong  
12 developmental disability, resulting in significant impairment of an  
13 individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive  
14 behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal  
15 communication; and

16 WHEREAS, autism is the third most common developmental  
17 disability, now affecting 1 in 150 children born in America; and

18 WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder  
19 affecting the functioning of the brain, but few members of the  
20 general public understand this complex syndrome; and

21 WHEREAS, although a cure for autism has not been found, persons  
22 with autism can be helped to reach their greatest potential. An  
23 accurate, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education  
24

1 and intervention are vital to the future growth and development of  
2 the individual; and

3 WHEREAS, many groups, such as the Oklahoma Autism Network, Tulsa  
4 Autism Foundation, Edmond Family Center for Autism, the Central  
5 Oklahoma Chapter of the Autism Society of America, and the Canadian  
6 Valley Autism Support Group have dedicated their service to advocate  
7 for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all  
8 persons with autism; and

9 WHEREAS, these groups remain committed to their cause and to  
10 educating families, professionals, and the general public to better  
11 understand this lifelong disability; and

12 WHEREAS, autism is a complex disability that requires increased  
13 research to one day find a cure and prevention. Greater recognition  
14 and understanding is needed to ensure that individuals with autism  
15 living in Oklahoma and all other Americans with autism are  
16 accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their  
17 lives.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION  
19 OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

20 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate declares April 2007 as Autism  
21 Awareness Month in the State of Oklahoma.

22 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma  
23 Autism Network, Tulsa Autism Foundation, Edmond Family Center for  
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1 Autism, the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the Autism Society of  
2 America, and the Canadian Valley Autism Support Group.

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