

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 HOUSE
5 RESOLUTION 1008

By: West (Tammy)

6
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution recognizing March 17, 2025, as Profound
9 Autism Day at the State Capitol; and expressing the
10 importance of awareness and support for profound
11 autism.

12 WHEREAS, the definition of autism has evolved over the years,
13 creating an increasingly heterogenous spectrum; and

14 WHEREAS, while the entire spectrum deserves recognition and
15 support, profound autism is a term intended to provide clarification
16 about the autistic people who require 24/7 care from an adult
17 caregiver throughout his or her life; and

18 WHEREAS, people with profound autism also can have a severe
19 intellectual disability or have minimal or no language; and

20 WHEREAS, individuals with profound autism are frequently
21 excluded from research and support programs because of his or her
22 unique needs; and

23 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control released their first
24 prevalence study on profound autism in April 2023; and

1 WHEREAS, the research concluded that the percentage of 8-year-
2 old children with profound autism among those with autism in the
3 United States was 26.7%. This means that 1 in 4 children with
4 autism have profound autism; and

5 WHEREAS, compared with children with non-profound autism,
6 children with profound autism were more likely to be female, from
7 racial and ethnic minority groups, of low socioeconomic status, born
8 preterm or with low birth weight, have self-injurious behaviors,
9 have seizure disorders, and have lower adaptive scores; and

10 WHEREAS, people with profound autism and those who care for them
11 live in our midst, frequently in isolation, and need our inclusion
12 and support. Specific consideration of their unique challenge is
13 critical.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

16 THAT Monday, March 17th, 2025 is hereby recognized by the
17 Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State of Oklahoma as
18 Profound Autism Day, in order to raise public awareness and support
19 for profound autism within our communities and within our state.

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21 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.
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