

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 17, 2021

RESOLUTION TO PROCLAIM APRIL AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Introduced by the Health & Human Services Committee

Commissioner Mott moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Pearl-Wright.

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 62/139 declaring World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD) be celebrated April 2, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the month of April is designated as National Autism Awareness Month to increase public awareness of the need to support individuals with autism and the family members, educators and other professionals who teach and care for individuals with autism, and

WHEREAS, in November, 2015, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Statistics Report concluded the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder has risen to one in every 45 children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) represents a broad group of disorders that vary widely from mild to severe, and is characterized by difficulty with social interaction, communication, severely limited interest and repetitive behaviors; and

WHEREAS, autism knows no racial, ethnic, family, income, lifestyle, social boundaries, or educational levels. It can affect any family and any child; and

WHEREAS, Xavier DeGroat has dedicated his life to educating and promoting community support for those with autism through the creation of the Xavier DeGroat Autism Foundation; and

WHEREAS, communities have a role, in identifying, assessing, or supporting individuals with ASD and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim April 2nd as World Autism Awareness Day and April every year going forward as Autism Awareness Month encourages the residents of Eaton County to become educated and informed of programs, services, and opportunities to support individuals with autism.

Roll call vote. Ayes: Tim Barnes, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Brandon Haskell, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Mark Mudry, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Jeremy Whittum, Barbara Rogers. Nays: Brian Droscha, Dairus Reynnet, Joseph Brehler. Carried.