

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 157

Approved April 9, 2014

WHEREAS, Autism and disorders on the autism spectrum reflect a wide range of disabilities and symptoms affecting more than one million Americans; and

WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Protection, one out of every 88 children born in the United States has autism or an autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, with more than 24,000 new diagnoses a year, a person is diagnosed with autism every twenty minutes in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at Bradley Hospital in East Providence reports that it treats 600 new patients each year; and

WHEREAS, Autism manifests itself uniquely in each individual and is characterized by communication difficulties, social interaction problems, and the need for sameness or repetition in behavior; and

WHEREAS, Significant improvement is often possible if an individual with autism receives early diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, Autism affects individuals from all backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, On December, 18, 2007, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously approved Resolution No. 62/139, designating April 2<sup>nd</sup> of each year as "World Autism Awareness Day" and encouraged all U.N. member states to take measures to raise awareness about autism, early diagnosis, and early behavioral intervention; and

WHEREAS, The goals of World Autism Awareness Day are to inform the general public about the global health crisis of autism, stress the importance of early diagnosis and early intervention, and celebrate the unique talents and qualities of individuals with autism.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council does hereby designate the second day of April each year as "World Autism Awareness Day," to better inform the public of the widespread nature of autism, to encourage early treatment and diagnosis, and to celebrate the unique talents and qualities of individuals with autism.

**IN CITY COUNCIL**

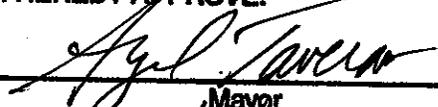
**APR 03 2014**

**READ AND PASSED**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**PRES.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CLERK**  
**ACTING**

**I HEREBY APPROVE.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

Date: 4/9/14