

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately one in 36 kids in the United States has autism spectrum disorder, including an estimated one in 36 eight-year-olds and one in 44 four-year-olds in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; autism spectrum disorder is a complex developmental condition that typically appears during early childhood but often remains undiagnosed until later in life; and

WHEREAS; while every individual experiences autism differently, many individuals with autism may be more sensitive to changes in routine and repeat certain behaviors, and individuals with autism may also interact with others, communicate, self-regulate, and learn in ways that are different from their non-autistic peers; and

WHEREAS; autism spectrum disorder affects a person throughout their entire life, and early diagnosis is vital to ensuring that every kid and adult with autism spectrum disorder has the support and services they need; and

WHEREAS; a strong foundation of support in childhood and throughout a person’s life that is specific to their educational, medical, social, recreational, family, employment, housing, and daily living needs is critical to ensuring folks with autism spectrum disorder can live their most independent and fulfilling lives; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins individuals with autism spectrum disorder, advocates, family members, caregivers, educators, and dedicated professionals and organizations across the state in inspiring inclusion and systemic changes to ensure individuals with autism are treated with dignity and respect and in celebrating the countless ways individuals with autism spectrum disorder enhance Wisconsin’s communities and enrich the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim  
April 2025 as

**AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH**

and April 2 2025 as

**WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State