



WHEREAS, 1 in 36 children in the United States are diagnosed with Autism spectrum disorder, who are able to achieve independence and live purposeful lives when afforded the support system and opportunities that each and everyone deserves; and

WHEREAS, many individuals and families living with Autism know acceptance is often one of the biggest barriers to finding and developing a strong support system. The Autism Society of Colorado understands the importance of fostering acceptance to lead to improved supports and to achieve equity in education, employment, housing, health care, and comprehensive long-term services and supports; and

WHEREAS, education and understanding to promote acceptance, inspire inclusion, and create systems-wide change to achieve full participation within society is important; and

WHEREAS, to achieve full societal inclusion of people with Autism, prioritization of policies that break down barriers for people with Autism to succeed in their chosen communities is necessary; which means, good jobs and more opportunities for employment, affordable, accessible, and integrated housing; accessible and affordable transportation; inclusive voting processes; and any needed long term services and supports, including those with significant support needs; and

WHEREAS, we honor self-advocates, family caregivers, professionals, and all who work every day to create more opportunities for those with Autism; and

WHEREAS, we come together to spread awareness, foster acceptance, and empower everyone in the Autism Community with the resources needed to live fully; and

WHEREAS, we strive to create a world where everyone in the Autism community feels accepted and connected to the support they need when they need it; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the infinite ways those with Autism contribute to their families and communities in Colorado;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim April 2024, as

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of April, 2024



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor