

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2024, Legislative Day No. 7

Resolution No. 12-24

Introduced by the Entire Council

and by Ms. Pickard, Chair
(by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, April 1, 2024

1 RESOLUTION recognizing Autism Awareness Day and Autism Acceptance Month in
2 Anne Arundel County in 2024

3
4 WHEREAS, autism is a developmental disability caused by differences in the
5 brain; and

6
7 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, autism affects an
8 estimated 1 in 36 children and 1 in 45 adults and is the fastest-growing
9 developmental disability in the United States; and

10
11 WHEREAS, autism is a lifelong condition, and while an autistic person's needs,
12 strengths, and challenges may change over time, early intervention and therapies
13 can make a significant difference in a person's skills and outcomes later in life; and

14
15 WHEREAS, autistic people face discrimination and barriers across all sectors of
16 society, including in the health and social care systems, in education, in
17 employment, and everywhere in between; and

18
19 WHEREAS, it is crucial that autistic people, and their families and caretakers, be
20 able to easily access tailored information, guidance, and support to overcome those
21 barriers, along with opportunities to explore their interests, develop skills and build
22 friendships for fulfilled lives; and

23
24 WHEREAS, local, national, and international advocacy groups have chosen the
25 month of April as a time to raise awareness about autism and to promote acceptance
26 of individuals with autism; and

27
28 WHEREAS, in 2007, the United Nations General Assembly designated April 2 as
29 World Autism Awareness Day as a way to raise awareness about autistic
30 individuals throughout the world and reaffirm its commitment to the rights and
31 well-being of people with disabilities; and

32
33 WHEREAS, the Society for Autism established April as Autism Acceptance Month
34 as a way to promote acceptance and inclusion amongst the autism community; and

1 WHEREAS, the County Council stands alongside the autism community in pursuit
2 of a better world for those with autism and celebrates the unique talents and
3 qualities of individuals with autism; now, therefore, be it
4

5 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,* That it hereby
6 recognizes April 2, 2024 as Autism Awareness Day in Anne Arundel County; and be it
7 further
8

9 *Resolved,* That the County Council recognizes the month of April in 2024 as Autism
10 Acceptance Month in Anne Arundel County; and be it further
11

12 *Resolved,* That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steuart Pittman.

READ AND PASSED this 1st day of April, 2024.

By Order:



Laura Corby
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 12-24 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY
ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Allison Pickard
Chair