



(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

## H. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Expressing support for the designation of September 19, 2026, as “Black Autism Acceptance and Awareness Day”.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LAWLER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of September 19, 2026, as “Black Autism Acceptance and Awareness Day”.

Whereas autism is a form of neurodivergence characterized by differences in social communication skills and by repetitive and highly focused behaviors and ways of thinking;

Whereas, despite recent efforts to serve Black autistic individuals, there appear to be significant racial inequities in the diagnosis and treatment of Black autistic children;

Whereas Black parents of autistic children reported significantly less autism concerns and behavioral concerns, with children more likely to be seen as “disruptive” instead of neurodivergent;

Whereas Black autistic individuals are more likely to be misdiagnosed, underdiagnosed, and diagnosed late;

Whereas Black autistic individuals are underrepresented in autism research;

Whereas Black autistic individuals have been found to have more difficulty in accessing specialty care;

Whereas the Black community reports more accounts of marginalization and dismissal of concerns in health care settings, including in the autism space;

Whereas Black autistic youth face increased risk of negative outcomes during interactions with law enforcement; and

Whereas Black autistic youth face disproportionate discipline at school, resulting in a higher prevalence of suspensions, expulsions, and other classroom punishments: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) expresses support for the designation of

3       “Black Autism Acceptance and Awareness Day”;

4           (2) encourages all Americans to celebrate Black

5       Autism Acceptance and Awareness Day by—

6           (A) raising awareness about the inequalities facing Black autistic individuals;

7           (B) promoting understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of Black autistic individuals;

8           (C) reinforcing the importance of amplifying the voices of Black autistic individuals;

9       and

1 (D) advocating for justice and equity for  
2 Black autistic individuals;

3 (3) recognizes that acceptance for Black autistic  
4 individuals is essential;

5 (4) recognizes that true acceptance for Black  
6 autistic individuals means culturally competent care,  
7 challenging existing biases, building community, and  
8 providing equitable access to resources and opportunities;  
9

10 (5) recognizes that autism does not end after  
11 childhood, and resources and acceptance are needed  
12 for Black autistic individuals into adulthood; and

13 (6) recognizes that neurological differences, like  
14 autism, are natural variations in the human experience,  
15 and those variations should be celebrated.