RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020 AS WORLD AUTISM MONTH AND TO COMMEMORATE WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY IN WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, Autism is a lifelong neurological condition that manifests during early childhood, irrespective of gender, race or socio-economic status. It affects four major areas of functioning: language and communication, social skills, sensory systems and behavior; Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication; and

WHEREAS, Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disability in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, Autism now affects 1 in 37 boys and 1 in 151 girls. Boys are four times more likely to be diagnosed with autism than girls. Most children were still being diagnosed after age 4, though autism can be reliably diagnosed as early as age 2; and

WHEREAS, more children will be diagnosed with Autism this year than with AIDs, diabetes & cancer combined.

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 1 percent of the world's population is affected by Autism, or 67 million people; and

WHEREAS, World Autism Awareness Day, celebrated on April 2nd annually, was adopted by the United Nations in 2007 to shine a bright light on Autism as a growing global health crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Webb County Commissioner's Court recognizes that there are over 700 individuals diagnosed with Autism in Laredo; and

WHEREAS, the National *Autism Speaks* Organization and the Laredo Chapter of *Families for Autism Support and Awareness* is aiming to light the world blue to raise awareness for Autism and to commemorate World Autism Month in April.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioner's Court of Webb County, Texas, that:

- 1. The County Commissioner's Court recognizes the month of April as *World Autism Month* in Webb County, Texas;
 - 2. The County Commissioner's Court proudly supports the efforts of the Laredo Chapter of Families for Autism Support and Awareness by helping to *Shine a Light on Autism*, and will light up the Webb County Courthouse in blue for the month of April to commemorate World Autism Month.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Webb County held on this 23rd day of March, 2020.

The Honorable Tano E. Tijerina Webb County Judge

Honorable Jesse Gonzalez

Commissioner, Precinct 1

Honorable John C. Galo Commissioner, Precinct 3 Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina Commissioner, Precinct 2

Honorable Cindy Liendo Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:

Margie Ramirez-Ibarra Webb County Clerk