A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2021, AS AUTISM AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE MONTH AND FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021, AS WORLD AUTISM DAY IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, autism affects an estimated 1 in 54 children and 1 in 45 adults and is a complex disorder that affects each person differently, resulting in unique strengths and challenges; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, autism can cause challenges with verbal and nonverbal communication, social interaction, and repetitive behaviors, and can affect anyone, regarding of age, race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, autism is often accompanied by medical conditions that impact quality of life; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, a comprehensive, collaborative approach will help advance research, providing a better understanding of the many forms of autism, while strengthening advocacy efforts and ensuring access to services and resources throughout the lifespan; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, early diagnosis and intervention tailored to individual needs can have lifelong benefits, easing the transition to adulthood and fostering greater independence; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, each person and family affected by autism should have access to reliable information, support and opportunities to live up to their greatest potential; and.
- § 7. WHEREAS, the City of Norman is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month and World Autism Day to address the diverse needs of individuals and families affected by autism.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

§ 8. Do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2021, as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month and Friday, April 2, 2021, as World Autism Day in the City of Norman to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder.

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PASSED .	AND APPROVED this 23	ord day of March, 2021.
a M	ATTEST:	Mayor
4	City Clerk	