

- WHEREAS, the month of April is National Autism Awareness Month; and
- WHEREAS, National Autism Awareness Month is an excellent opportunity to promote autism awareness, educate and draw attention to the tens of thousands facing autism diagnosis each year; and
- WHEREAS, the Autism Center at California State University of Fresno opened in July 2007 and continues to provide much needed behavior therapy services to children 18 months to 6 years of age with a diagnosis of autism or a related disability throughout the great City of Fresno; and
- WHEREAS, most children receiving behavior therapy services improve their skills and abilities across many domains including language, motor skills, self-help skills, social skills, preacademic skills and general learning skills; and
- **WHEREAS,** under the direction of California State University of Fresno's Autism Center, there are about 40 active clients at any given time, and, as a result, more than 80 children have been served; and
- WHEREAS, new partnerships such as the one with Valley Children's Hospital is being formed in order to provide more services, educate the public and provide hands on experience that prepare the next generation of health care leaders while improving the quality of life:
- **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, Mayor Ashley Swearengin and Fresno City Council Members encourage all citizens to join us in learning more about Autism education and encourage more detailed research;
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that we, Mayor Ashley Swearengin and Fresno City Council Members, do hereby commend the Autism Center at California State University of Fresno for their unwavering service and acknowledge the month of April to be:

"National Autism Awareness Month"

in the City of Fresno.