

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: Wed., March 21, 2007

Division: BOCC

Bulk Item: Yes  No

Department: Mayor Mario Di Gennaro, District 4

Staff Contact Person: Tamara Lundstrom  
(305 289-6000)

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**AGENDA ITEM WORDING: Approval of Proclamation declaring April 2007 as Autism Awareness Month.**

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**ITEM BACKGROUND: Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, with one of every 150 children being affected by autism. Over the past 15 years, the number of autism cases has increased by 2,000 percent; more cases of autism reported in the last three years than in the previous seven.**

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**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOCC ACTION:**

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**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT CHANGES:**

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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**TOTAL COST:** \_\_\_\_\_ **BUDGETED:** Yes  No

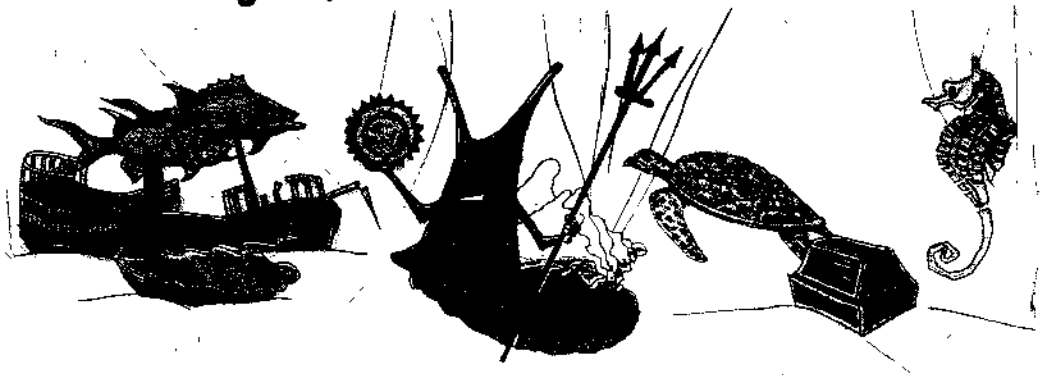
**COST TO COUNTY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SOURCE OF FUNDS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REVENUE PRODUCING:** Yes  No  **AMOUNT PER MONTH** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED BY:** County Atty  OMB/Purchasing  Risk Management

**DOCUMENTATION:** Included  Not Required

**DISPOSITION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AGENDA ITEM #** \_\_\_\_\_



# Mayor's Proclamation

**PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2007  
AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, Autism affects the normal development of the brain in the areas of social interaction and communication skills, but few members of the general public understand this complex syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States with one out of every 150 children being affected by autism. Over the past 15 years the number of Autism cases has increased by 2,000 percent; more cases of Autism have been reported in the last three years than in the previous seven; and

WHEREAS, Autism has wide ranging implications for the entire family of the diagnosed individual, and early diagnosis research, training, education and therapies are vital to reducing the effects of Autism and improving the quality of life for individuals living with Autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex development disability that typically appears during the first three years of life, is far more prevalent in boys than girls and knows no racial, ethnic, or social boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Autism is a complex disability that requires greater recognition and understanding to ensure that individuals with Autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, significant progress has been made in the last 30 years in the areas of research, medicine, diagnostic issues and therapies for Autism, resulting in an improved quality of life for individuals living with Autism and for their families; and

WHEREAS, our work is not done, we still need to educate the public about Autism, especially teachers, parents and doctors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA, assembled in regular session this 21st day of March, 2007 that the month of April 2007 is hereby proclaimed

**AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

DATED this 21st day of March, 2007

MARIO DI GENNARO, MAYOR  
MONROE COUNTY