

*WHEREAS*; Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that affects a significant number of individuals globally, impacting communication, social interaction, and behavior, and

*WHEREAS*; Autism Awareness Month is recognized annually in April, aiming to promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals with autism, fostering a society that embraces neurodiversity, and

*WHEREAS*; Iowa Colony acknowledges the importance of creating an environment that celebrates unique talents and contributions of individuals with autism, and strives to build a community that is inclusive and supportive, and

*WHEREAS*; raising awareness about autism helps dispel misconceptions, reduce stigma, and encourage a culture of acceptance, fostering an atmosphere where individuals with autism can thrive, and

*WHEREAS*; Iowa Colony recognizes the significance of collaborating with local organizations, schools, businesses, and the community to promote education, acceptance, and support for individuals with autism and their families,

*NOW THEREFORE*, I, Wil Kennedy, Mayor of the City of Iowa Colony, do hereby proclaim the month of April as Autism Awareness Month in the City of Iowa Colony, Texas and urge all citizens to participate in activities that promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion of individuals with autism.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, to be affixed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

Wil Kennedy, Mayor