



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael F. Nozzolio

## Senator Nozzolio Co-Sponsors Resolution Recognizing April 2012 as Autism Awareness Month

MICHAEL F. NOZZOLIO March 27, 2012

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In recognition of individuals diagnosed with autism, as well as their families and the dedicated professionals who work with them, State Senator Mike Nozzolio is helping to commemorate next month, April 2012, as Autism Awareness Month. Today, the State Senate adopted a legislative resolution co-sponsored by Senator Nozzolio recognizing this important month as a vital opportunity to learn more about the particular challenges that families affected by autism face.

“It is now estimated that one out of every 110 American children is affected by an autism spectrum disorder. There are literally hundreds of families in the Finger Lakes region affected by autism,” said Senator Nozzolio. “Autism Awareness Month is an important

time to gain a better understanding of the services and programs that are available to these individuals and families, as well as to commemorate the courage and determination of those living with this condition.”

Last year, Senator Nozzolio co-sponsored and fought to enact legislation to require accident and health insurance policies to provide coverage for screening, diagnosis and treatment for patients with autism spectrum disorders. This legislation was adopted in both houses of the State Legislature with strong bi-partisan support and signed into law by Governor Cuomo, closing the gap in coverage for families living with autism once and for all.

“This new law is one of the strongest autism insurance reforms in the Nation and will open the door for thousands of families to receive the early diagnosis and intense early intervention which are critical in ensuring a brighter future for children with autism,” said Senator Nozzolio.

“Families coping with a diagnosis of autism deserve all the help, support and compassion that we can provide,” continued Senator Nozzolio. “As State Senator, I will continue fighting to support programs that help children and adults diagnosed with autism and I remain committed to helping in whatever way I can to support these individuals and their families.”