The Honorable (Elected Official First Name) (Elected Official Last Name) (Building Name) (Street Address) (Room Number) (City) (State) (Zip)

Dear (Elected Official Position) (Last Name):

My name is (Your First Name) (Your Last Name) and I live in (city, state). (I/my son/my daughter/my sibling/my friend/etc) is ____ years old and on the autism spectrum. (I/We) respectfully ask that you introduce and support a Proclamation on behalf of (County/state/city which the elected official represents) declaring April 21st as AUTISM AFTER 21 DAY. Briefly, the proclamation acknowledges that autistic adults exist in the community and they need to be included fully in our communities.

April is Autism Month. Most often, the face of autism is a child, but autistic children grow up to be autistic adults. Recently updated, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that 1 in 36 children have been identified with autism. Once they turn 21 and no longer have the support of the school system, they often lose their friends, something meaningful to do during the day, and sometimes a family member must quit their job to stay home to care for their loved one on the autism spectrum.

Adults on the autism spectrum want to give back to their community, but they find that opportunities can be difficult when you are different. As adults, they face many challenges, such as unemployment, lack of affordable housing, stigma, and loneliness.

Please help make our community more aware and autism-friendly to adults on the autism spectrum by declaring April 21st as AUTISM AFTER 21 DAY. The Madison House Autism Foundation started this national movement in Montgomery County, MD and has provided a template of the Proclamation they used below.

Thank you so much for your continued service and support and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME YOUR PHONE NUMBER YOUR EMAIL

Link to Template Proclamation: https://madisonhouseautism.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/AA21-Proclamation-Template-2023.pdf

