

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 389 OF 2016

Resolution introduced by Supervisors Strough, Seeber, Girard, Sokol, Wood, McDevitt, Montesi, Braymer and Leggett

ADOPTING THE “THINK DIFFERENTLY” INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AND ACCEPTANCE OF INDIVIDUALS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM AND WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

WHEREAS, the “Think Differently” initiative is about promoting awareness and acceptance of all individuals living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs, and

WHEREAS, our State and communities are stronger because of our diversity and differences, and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) over 55 million people, or approximately 19% of Americans, have a type of disability or special need, and

WHEREAS, for some people with special needs, the very things that make them unique can also keep them on the sidelines, separate from those who might not understand their differences or uniqueness, and

WHEREAS, it is important to promote and provide guidance to those with special needs regarding access to publicly supported services available to them in the community, and

WHEREAS, it is important to encourage and educate the community and businesses on ways they can make facilities and services more accessible and on how to train staff to welcome and support needs of special needs customers and co-workers, and

WHEREAS, the goal of this initiative is to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for individuals of all abilities by supporting community events and expand family-friendly opportunities for people with special needs and their families, and

WHEREAS, adopting the “Think Differently” initiative is an important statement that our County officials, business owners and residents can make to show support for the differently-abled children and adults with special needs and their families, now, therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors, residents and business owners do hereby adopt the “Think Differently” initiative so that all are better prepared to communicate with, provide for and support those living on the Autism Spectrum and with special needs.