

RESOLUTION NO. 26R-02-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING STRONG SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 206 (2026) RELATING TO STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO PASS THE BILL AND PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO TRANSMIT A CERTIFIED COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE FLORIDA SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SENATOR SHEVRIN JONES, AND THE BROWARD COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER MELISSA DUNN).

WHEREAS, the City of Lauderhill is committed to ensuring equitable access to quality education and supportive services for all students, including those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD); and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a developmental condition that affects communication, behavior, and learning, and the prevalence of ASD continues to rise nationwide, with approximately one in every thirty-one children identified as having autism; and

WHEREAS, Broward County Public Schools serves more than 8,000 students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, including many students residing in the City of Lauderhill, placing increased demand on local schools, educators, and support services; and

WHEREAS, many families in the City of Lauderhill face difficulty raising children with ASD, and challenges accessing adequately trained educators and evidence-based instructional support for students with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 206 (2026), titled Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder, proposes to strengthen educational outcomes for students with ASD by requiring enhanced evidence-based training for educators, expanding autism-specific professional development and micro-credential programs, revising teacher preparation curricula, and establishing initiatives to recruit and retain qualified special education teachers; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 206 further seeks to ensure that teachers assigned to classrooms serving a majority of students with autism spectrum disorder possess appropriate autism-specific endorsements or training, thereby improving instructional quality and student success; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lauderhill recognizes that well-trained educators and adequately funded autism-specific programs can lead to improved academic performance, increased inclusion, reduced long-term support costs, and better quality-of-life outcomes for students with autism and their families; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Lauderhill believes that supporting

legislation that strengthens autism education and services is in the best interest of the City and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing WHEREAS clauses are hereby adopted and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. The City Commission of the City of Lauderhill hereby expresses its strong support for Senate Bill 206 (2026) and urges the Florida Legislature to pass the bill and provide sufficient funding for its full and effective implementation to benefit students with autism spectrum disorder across the State of Florida, including those residing in the City of Lauderhill.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the President of the Florida Senate, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and the Broward County Legislative Delegation.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

DENISE D. GRANT, MAYOR
PRESIDING OFFICER

ATTEST:

ANDREA M. ANDERSON, MMC
CITY CLERK

MOTION _____
SECOND _____

Approved as to Form

R. CAMPBELL _____
M. DUNN _____
D. GRANT _____
J. HODGSON _____
S. MARTIN _____

Hans Ottinot
City Attorney