

1 **Town/Village/City of _____**
2 **Town/Village/City of _____ Board**
3 **Resolution**

4 **Resolution Calling On Town/Village/City of _____, Residents And**
5 **Business Owners To Adopt The “Think Differently” Initiative To Assist Individuals**
6 **With Special Needs And Their Families**

7 **WHEREAS**, the “Think Differently” initiative is about promoting awareness and acceptance of
8 all people, and advocating for the inclusion of all individuals living on the Autism Spectrum and
9 with special needs; and

10 **WHEREAS**, our state and communities are stronger because of our diversity and differences;
11 and

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

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

17 **WHEREAS**, it is important to promote and provide guidance to those with special needs on
18 how to access publically supported services available to them in the community; and

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

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

25 **WHEREAS**, adopting the “Think Differently” initiative is an important statement that our
26 Town/Village/City officials, business owners and residents can make to show their support for
27 the differently-abled children and adults with special needs, and their families.

28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town/Village/City of _____
29 adopts and urges residents and business owners to adopt the “Think Differently” initiative so
30 that all are better prepared to communicate with, provide for, and support those living on the
31 Autism Spectrum and with special needs.