



The Orange County Legislature proclaimed April as Autism Awareness Month at its session on April 1, 2011 in the legislative chambers of the Orange County Government Center. A teenager affected by an autism spectrum disorder spoke briefly relating to the proclamation.

Good morning my name is Dominick Comisse and I have Autism. I am 15 and in 10th grade at Goshen High School. I am like any other teenager, I like video games ,movies and sleeping late on the weekends. The only problem with having Autism you have to go about your day a little different. I have to take a lot of medication to help me get through the day and it makes me tired and I battle my weight. I don't mind much because it helps me. Sometimes people don't understand what it is like to deal with Autism. I get frustrated over small things and get upset and I really don't know how to express this. I will cry or act out and people will just look at me. I know I am different when this happens but I am managing it with walking away for A moment to compose myself. Most of the times it works. Also I have trouble with noises I have A hard time blocking them out. Little things that most people can block out like a squeaking sneaker, a tapping pencil or A person humming. They may not be A big deal to some people but I can't seem to block them out. Then once again instead of asking the person to stop I lose it. I have been working with Mr H at school to not sweat the small stuff. It is a work in progress. With the support of my Mom and Family and teachers in school it get's better but some days more difficult than others. If for one day everyone could know how it feels to have Autism there would be more understanding of how hard it is to deal with. I hope in the future that find A cure fir Autism and no one will have to go through these daily challenges. I Know No One Is Perfect But No One Should Have To Try So Hard Everyday

THANK YOU