

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 850

Recognizing suicide as a public health problem and expressing support for designation of September as “National Suicide Prevention Month”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2016

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KNIGHT, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. EMMER of Minnesota, and Mr. KATKO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Recognizing suicide as a public health problem and expressing support for designation of September as “National Suicide Prevention Month”.

Whereas suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 to 34;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one person completes suicide every

12.3 minutes, resulting in nearly 43,000 suicides each year in the United States;

Whereas suicide is the only leading cause of death in the United States that has increased every year for the past decade;

Whereas it is estimated that there are over 1,100,000 suicide attempts each year;

Whereas over 90 percent of the people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition, although often that condition is not recognized or treated;

Whereas according to the CDC, suicide results in an estimated \$44,600,000,000 in combined medical and work loss costs nationally;

Whereas the stigma associated with mental health conditions and suicidality works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide loss and people with lived experience of suicide; and

Whereas September would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Suicide Prevention Month” which overlaps World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10, recognized internationally and supported by the World Health Organization: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) recognizes suicide as a preventable national
3 and State public health problem;

4 (2) supports the designation of “National Suicide
5 Prevention Month”;

1 (3) supports declaring that suicide prevention
2 should be a priority;

3 (4) acknowledges that no single suicide preven-
4 tion program or effort will be appropriate for all
5 populations or communities;

6 (5) promotes awareness that there is no single
7 cause for suicide, and that suicide most often occurs
8 when stressors exceed current coping abilities of
9 someone suffering from a mental health condition;
10 and

11 (6) develops and implements strategies to in-
12 crease access to quality mental health, substance
13 abuse, and suicide prevention services.

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