

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1514

Recognizing suicide as a serious public health problem, expressing support for the designation of September 8, 2026, as “988 Day” and the role of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Mr. BELL (for himself, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. LAWLER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. NEAL, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KEATING, Ms. POU, Ms. BALINT, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Recognizing suicide as a serious public health problem, expressing support for the designation of September 8, 2026, as “988 Day” and the role of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and for other purposes.

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (in this preamble referred to as the “CDC”), in 2024, suicide was the second-leading cause of death for people aged 10 to 34;

Whereas, according to the CDC, in 2024, suicide was responsible for more than 48,800 deaths, or about 1 death every 11 minutes;

Whereas, according to the CDC, in 2024, suicide was the tenth-leading cause of death in the United States overall;

Whereas, according to the CDC, from 1999 through 2018 the national suicide rate increased by 35 percent;

Whereas suicide and attempts have a devastating and longlasting impact on individuals, families, and communities across the Nation;

Whereas over 90 percent of individuals who die by suicide were living with a diagnosable mental health condition at the time of their death—conditions that are frequently undiagnosed or untreated;

Whereas untreated mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders, significantly increase the risk of suicide;

Whereas access to timely and effective mental health services and crisis support is a vital component of suicide prevention;

Whereas, on July 16, 2022, 988 became the nationwide, three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, now known as the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (in this preamble referred to as the “988 Lifeline”);

Whereas the 988 Lifeline is operated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (in this preamble referred to as “SAMHSA”) and connects individuals in crisis to a national network of over 200 State and locally funded crisis centers that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

Whereas the 988 Lifeline offers services in over 240 languages, and provides support through phone, chat, and TTY services for the deaf and hard of hearing, as well

as specialized options, including a veterans crisis line and services for Spanish speakers;

Whereas, before it ended in July 2025, the LGBTQI+ youth and young adult line, launched in late 2022, had received nearly 1.6 million contacts, representing approximately 10 percent of all 988 interactions and underscoring the vital importance of targeted crisis support for this at-risk population;

Whereas, since its launch in July 2022, the 988 Lifeline has routed nearly 26.2 million contacts, including calls, texts, and chats;

Whereas, according to SAMHSA, a recent study found that 98 percent of callers reported the 988 Lifeline was helpful and 88 percent of callers said the 988 Lifeline prevented them from harming themselves;

Whereas, since the original launch of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline in 2005, annual contact volume increased steadily by approximately 14 percent, with the number of interactions growing from 46,000 in 2005 to over 7.8 million in 2025;

Whereas, from July 2022 to July 2026, the 988 Lifeline received 26.2 million contacts, and in June 2026 alone, the 988 Lifeline received over 770,000 contacts—an increase of 92 percent over June 2023;

Whereas SAMHSA annually recognizes September 8th as 988 Day, which is observed by organizations nationwide to raise awareness of the service and promote mental health support: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) recognizes suicide as a serious and growing
2 public health concern in the United States;

3 (2) commends the development and implemen-
4 tation of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline as a
5 critical component of the national mental health
6 safety net;

7 (3) encourages continued public education and
8 outreach regarding the availability and importance
9 of 988, particularly for high-risk populations;

10 (4) supports Federal, State, and local efforts to
11 expand access to mental health services and crisis
12 intervention programs; and

13 (5) supports the goals and ideals of 988 Day as
14 a way to recognize the essential role of the Lifeline
15 in saving lives and supporting mental health across
16 all communities.

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