

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 506

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Eating Disorders Awareness
Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT (for herself and Mr. STRICKLAND) submitted the following
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Eating Disorders
Awareness Week.

Whereas an estimated 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 people in the
United States suffer from eating disorders, including
anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating dis-
order;

Whereas eating disorders are more common among women,
but an increasing number of men also suffer from these
disorders;

Whereas an estimated .5 to 3.7 percent of women in the
United States will suffer from anorexia nervosa in their
lifetimes, an estimated 1.1 to 4.2 percent of women in
the United States will suffer from bulimia nervosa, and
an estimated two to five percent of people in the United

States experience binge eating disorder during any given six-month period;

Whereas anorexia nervosa has the highest premature mortality rate of any mental illness;

Whereas eating disorders are associated with serious physical health consequences, including irregular heartbeats, heart disease and heart failure, kidney failure, osteoporosis, gastric rupture, peptic ulcer, tooth decay, obesity, gall bladder disease, diabetes, and death;

Whereas eating disorders are also associated with substantial psychological problems, including depression, substance abuse, and suicide;

Whereas shame, guilt, and misunderstanding often afflict a person who suffers from an eating disorder, and prevent the treatment of the disorder; and

Whereas the National Eating Disorders Association and its affiliated organizations have designated the week of February 22, 2004, as National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, to increase public awareness of eating disorders and to promote healthful eating habits and a healthy body image: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports
2 the goals and ideals of National Eating Disorders Aware-
3 ness Week—

4 (1) to increase public awareness of eating dis-
5 orders;

6 (2) to expand research for treatment and cures;

7 (3) to broaden access to treatment; and

- 1 (4) to promote healthful eating habits and a
- 2 healthy body image.

