

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 82

Reps. Whiteford, Calley, Cherry, Chirkun, Clemente, Crawford, Garza, Gay-Dagnogo, Haadsma, Hood, Hope, Cynthia Johnson, Jones, Kahle, Kuppa, Liberati, Pagan, Rendon, Sabo, Shannon, Sneller, Sowerby, Stone, Webber, Wittenberg and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, The month of May is designated as Mental Health
4 Awareness Month by Mental Health America and its affiliates; and

5 Whereas, One in five adults in the United States have a mental
6 health condition and half of those have a co-occurring substance
7 use disorder; and

8 Whereas, Tens of thousands of Michigan residents live with
9 mental and behavioral health illnesses every year and many of them



1 struggle to get the care they need; and

2 Whereas, In any given year, around 336,000 adults in Michigan
3 are documented as having a serious mental illness and 84,000
4 adolescents experience a major depressive episode with only 44% of
5 all individuals receiving some form of treatment; and

6 Whereas, Recognizing the need for reform, the House of
7 Representatives convened the bi-partisan House C.A.R.E.S.
8 (Community Access Resources and Safety) Task Force in 2017 to
9 discuss our state's mental health system; and

10 Whereas, The House C.A.R.E.S. Task Force Report was published
11 in January 2018 and contained several recommendations to better
12 connect the state's residents with access to care, treatment, and
13 prevention to improve their quality of life; and

14 Whereas, Of these many recommendations, the report looked at
15 addressing treatment and prevention in our jails and judicial
16 system, training for individuals to recognize a mental health
17 crises, expanding opportunities for individuals to be connected
18 with care, filling the shortage of mental health providers,
19 delivering care early to adolescents, and ensuring our veterans are
20 connected with services; and

21 Whereas, The Michigan House of Representatives will continue
22 to reduce the stigmatization of mental illness and work toward
23 providing quality services to those that are living with mental
24 health disorders and addictions; now, therefore, be it

25 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
26 this legislative body declare May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness
27 Month in the state of Michigan.