

1 A RESOLUTION declaring February 26 through March 4, 2018, as Eating
2 Disorders Awareness Week in Kentucky, in conjunction with the observance of National
3 Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

4 WHEREAS, the 2018 theme of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week is "Let's
5 Get Real", and will focus on expanding the conversation around eating disorders to
6 include the diverse perspectives of the millions of people affected; and

7 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week is a collaborative effort
8 consisting primarily of volunteers, including eating disorder professionals, health care
9 providers, students, educators, social workers, and individuals committed to raising
10 awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders and the need for early intervention
11 and access to treatment; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Eating Disorder Association strives to address the many
13 misconceptions regarding eating disorders and to highlight the availability of resources
14 for treatment and support; and

15 WHEREAS, eating disorders are shrouded in stigma, secrecy, and stereotypes, and
16 include anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorders; and

17 WHEREAS, in the United States an estimated twenty million women and ten
18 million men suffer from clinically significant eating disorders at some time in their life;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, eating disorders usually first appear in adolescence and are associated
21 with substantial psychological problems, including depression, substance abuse, and
22 suicide; and

23 WHEREAS, individuals with anorexia nervosa have the highest mortality rate of
24 individuals with any mental illness; and

25 WHEREAS, many eating disorders go undetected and fewer than one-third of youth
26 with eating disorders will receive treatment; and

27 WHEREAS, eating disorder experts have found that prompt intensive treatment

1 significantly improves the chances of recovery from eating disorders, and it is important
2 for educators, medical providers, parents, and community members to be aware of the
3 warning signs and the symptoms of eating disorders; and

4 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week will encourage people to
5 share their stories and experiences with disordered eating and body image struggles, and
6 make all of us aware of the importance of early detection and intervention; and

7 WHEREAS, this legislative body recognizes the vital work of National Eating
8 Disorder Awareness Week in promoting public and media attention to the seriousness of
9 eating disorders and improving the education about the biological and environmental
10 causes of eating disorders and the struggles associated with these debilitating diseases;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
13 *Kentucky:*

14 ➔Section 1. The Senate declares February 26 through March 4, 2018, to be Eating
15 Disorders Awareness Week in Kentucky.

16 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
17 Resolution to Governor Matthew Bevin, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100, Frankfort,
18 Kentucky 40601; to The National Eating Disorder Association; and other eating disorder
19 organizations in Kentucky.