

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER AND SENATOR MILLS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Monday, April 16, 2018, as Suicide Prevention Day at the state capitol.

WHEREAS, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of fifteen and thirty-four; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the eleventh leading cause of death in Louisiana and the third leading cause of death among Louisianans between the ages of fifteen and thirty-four; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, one person in the United States completes suicide every 12.3 minutes, resulting in over 44,000 suicides each year; and

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

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are over 1.1 million suicide attempts each year; and

WHEREAS, over ninety 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; and

WHEREAS, suicide results in an estimated \$51 billion in combined medical and work loss costs nationally; and

WHEREAS, suicide results in an estimated \$675,990,000 in combined medical and work loss costs in Louisiana annually; and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental health conditions works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk of suicide from seeking life-saving help; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention envision a world without suicide, and are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide through research, education, and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the foundation urges that we recognize suicide as a preventable public health problem; acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program will be appropriate for all; encourage initiatives based on goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and in the Louisiana Plan for Youth Suicide Prevention; promote awareness that there is no single cause for suicide; and develop and implement strategies to increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Monday, April 16, 2018, as Suicide Prevention Day at the state capitol.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE