

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018**

**S. C. R. No. 24**

**Senator Tavares**

**Cosponsors: Senators Beagle, Brown, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, O'Brien,  
Oelslager, Schiavoni, Sykes, Thomas, Williams**

---

**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To raise awareness about the prevalence of mental illness 1  
in the United States and Ohio. 2

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, Mental health, including behavioral health, 3  
substance use, and psychological well-being, is at the forefront 4  
of public health as an essential and integral component of the 5  
overall health and well-being of individuals and populations; 6  
and 7

WHEREAS, According to the National Alliance on Mental 8  
Illness: 9

--Approximately 44 million adults in the United States, or 10  
roughly one in five adults, experience mental illness; 11

--Approximately twenty-six per cent of homeless adults in 12  
shelters in the United States live with serious mental illness; 13

--Approximately twenty-four per cent of state prisoners in 14  
the United States have a recent history of a mental condition; 15

--Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death worldwide, 16  
and ninety per cent of those who die by suicide have an 17

underlying mental illness; and 18

WHEREAS, According to the National Institute of Mental Health, nearly sixty per cent of adults with mental illness in the United States did not receive treatment for their mental illness in the previous year; and 19  
20  
21  
22

WHEREAS, According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Ohio ranks twelfth in prevalence of mental illness in adults; and 23  
24  
25

WHEREAS, According to the National Council for Behavioral Health, Ohio has one of the highest rates of drug-related deaths and opioid addiction in the United States; now therefore be it 26  
27  
28

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, support those individuals in our state who are struggling with mental illness; and be it further 29  
30  
31

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, encourage efforts to increase public awareness about mental illness and the availability of mental health treatment and services for Ohio citizens; and be it further 32  
33  
34  
35  
36

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the news media of Ohio. 37  
38  
39  
40