

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

Unofficial  
Relating recognition of May as Mental Health Awareness Month in Missouri

WHEREAS, one in five American adults and children have a diagnosable mental illness each year;  
and

WHEREAS, nearly one in twenty-five adults live with a serious mental illness; and

WHEREAS, half of all mental illnesses begin by the age of fourteen and three-quarters begin by the age of twenty-four; and

Resolution  
WHEREAS, seventy percent of youth in the juvenile justice system have mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, nearly sixty percent of adults and nearly fifty percent of youth do not receive mental health treatment; and

WHEREAS, untreated mental illnesses contribute to unemployment, disability, homelessness, incarceration, substance abuse, and suicide; and

WHEREAS, early identification and treatment of mental illnesses has proven to be vital to the recovery process; and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental illness prevents many individuals from seeking necessary treatment; and  
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WHEREAS, the establishment of Mental Health Awareness Month would provide an appropriate venue to communicate an important message to the public about importance of mental health treatment and recovery; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-eighth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives, concurring therein, hereby recognize each year the month of May as "Mental Health Awareness Month"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the citizens of Missouri are encouraged to participate in appropriate activities such as wearing the color green to raise awareness of mental health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to send properly inscribed copies of this resolution to the Governor for his approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.