

HR 8029

2018

## 1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating February 3-10, 2018, as  
3 "Mental Health Awareness Week" in Florida.  
4

5 WHEREAS, an estimated 43.6 million Americans 18 years of  
6 age and older experience some form of mental illness, and an  
7 estimated 7.9 million Americans experience both a mental illness  
8 and a substance abuse disorder, and

9 WHEREAS, over 660,000 adults and 181,000 children in the  
10 state live with bipolar disorder, severe depression,  
11 schizophrenia, or another serious mental illness, and

12 WHEREAS, mental health is essential to achieving one's full  
13 potential, and mental illness can affect the ability of an  
14 individual to carry out daily tasks, establish and maintain  
15 relationships, or pursue other fundamental endeavors, and

16 WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately \$193 billion in  
17 lost work earnings are a result of serious mental illnesses, and

18 WHEREAS, according to the American College Health  
19 Association's Spring 2014 National College Health Assessment,  
20 14.3 percent of college students were diagnosed with anxiety, 12  
21 percent of college students were diagnosed with depression, and  
22 86.4 percent reported feeling overwhelmed by the expectations of  
23 college, and

24 WHEREAS, mental illnesses affect people of all ages and all  
25 walks of life, including first responders, who encounter

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26 | stresses on the job which can contribute to or worsen  
27 | depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues, and  
28 |       WHEREAS, mental health treatment and awareness provided in  
29 | a caring and supportive atmosphere are vital for those  
30 | struggling with mental illness, and there are many effective  
31 | actions that organizations can take to promote mental health,  
32 | NOW, THEREFORE,

33 |

34 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
35 | Florida:

36 |

37 |       That in recognition of the need to support the mental  
38 | health of the citizens of this state, February 3-10, 2018, is  
39 | designated as "Mental Health Awareness Week" in Florida.