

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 71

Designating the week of October 7 through October 13, 2001, as “National Mental Health Awareness Week”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2001

Ms. LANDRIEU submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Designating the week of October 7 through October 13, 2001, as “National Mental Health Awareness Week”.

Whereas mental health is defined by the state of emotional and psychological well-being in which an individual is able to use the individual’s cognitive and emotional capabilities, to function in society, and to meet the ordinary demands of everyday life;

Whereas mental health disorders include, depression, substance abuse, anxiety, Alzheimer’s disease, autism, bipolar illness, and panic attacks;

Whereas more than 51,000,000 individuals in the United States suffer from a mental illness in a single year, but only 8,000,000 seek treatment;

Whereas 40,000,000 adults in the United States are affected by 1 or more mental disorders;

Whereas 6,500,000 individuals in the United States are disabled by severe mental illness;

Whereas the Surgeon General has reported that 4 out of 10 of the leading causes of disability for persons age 5 and older are mental disorders;

Whereas 5.4 percent of the adult population in the United States suffers from a “serious” mental illness which interferes with some area of their social functioning;

Whereas children and adolescents, like adults, have mental health problems that can lead to school failure, family conflicts, drug abuse, violence, and suicide;

Whereas education and awareness about mental health and mental health services are necessary to detection and treatment; and

Whereas Congress, as an institution, and the Members of Congress, as individuals, have the unique possibility of raising awareness about mental health: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*

2 *concurring*), That Congress—

3 (1) designates the week of October 7 through

4 October 13, 2001, as “National Mental Health

5 Awareness Week”;

6 (2) encourages all Americans to find out more

7 about mental health services in their communities

1 and seek mental health treatment when necessary;

2 and

3 (3) requests that the President issue a procla-

4 mation calling upon the people of the United States

5 and interested groups to observe such week with ap-

6 propriate ceremonies and activities.

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