

Reps. Vaupel, Allor, Cochran, Crawford, Ellison, Geiss, Greig, Kelly, Liberati, Maturen, Rendon, Sneller, Whiteford and Wittenberg offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 305.

A resolution to declare May 2018 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, The month of May is designated as Mental Health Awareness Month by Mental Health America and its affiliates; and

Whereas, 1 in 5 adults in the United States have a mental health condition and half of which have a co-occurring substance use disorder; and

Whereas, Tens of thousands of Michigan residents live with mental and behavioral health illnesses every year and many of them struggle to get the care they need; and

Whereas, In any given year, around 336,000 adults in Michigan are documented as having a serious mental illness and 84,000 adolescents experience a major depressive episode with only 44% of all individuals receiving some form of treatment; and

Whereas, Recognizing the need for reform, the House of Representatives convened the bi-partisan House C.A.R.E.S. (Community Access Resources and Safety) in 2017 to discuss our state's mental health system; and

Whereas, The House C.A.R.E.S. Task Force Report was published in January 2018 and contained several recommendations to better connect the state's residents with access to care, treatment, and prevention to improve their quality of life; and

Whereas, Of these many recommendations, the report looked at addressing treatment and prevention in our jails and judicial system, training for individuals to recognize a mental health crises, expanding opportunities for individuals to be connected with care, filling the shortage of mental health providers, delivering care early to adolescents, and ensuring our veterans are connected with services; and

Whereas, The Michigan House of Representatives will continue to reduce the stigmatization of mental illness and work toward providing quality services to those that are living with mental health disorders and addictions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare May 2018 as Mental Health Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.