

2017 Senate Joint Resolution 48

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming May 2017 as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Whereas, one in five Americans lives with a mental illness; and

Whereas, May has been observed as National Mental Health Awareness Month since 1949; and

Whereas, Mental Health Awareness Month is a time to raise awareness about mental illnesses, such as major depression, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder, and draw attention to suicide, which may be precipitated by mental illness; and

Whereas, we must empower first responders, doctors, and families to help those with the most severe mental illnesses to ensure that people with mental illness have access to evidence—based treatment and services; and

Whereas, the stigma associated with mental illness prevents many individuals from seeking help for themselves or loved ones; and

Whereas, treatments for mental illnesses are highly effective; and

Whereas, reducing the stigma associated with mental illness through compassion, education, and advocacy can draw attention to the proven methods that better the lives of those living with a mental illness; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the legislature join our colleagues in Congress by proclaiming May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Representative Robin J. Vos	Senator Roger Roth
Speaker of the Assembly	President of the Senate
Date	Jeffrey Renk Senate Chief Clerk