



**State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE**

LRB-2040/1
SWB:amn

2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 8

February 24, 2017 – Introduced by Representatives C. TAYLOR, HORLACHER, POPE, HESSELBEIN, ZAMARRIPA, MILROY, SARGENT, OHNSTAD, SPREITZER, BROSTOFF, WACHS and BERCEAU, cosponsored by Senators L. TAYLOR, WIRCH, RINGHAND, RISSE and C. LARSON. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Whereas, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is observed from February 26 to March 4; and

5 Whereas, the 2017 theme of National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is "It's
6 Time to Talk About It," which will focus on debunking myths, getting the facts about
7 eating disorders, and encouraging individuals to get screened; and

Whereas, eating disorders are serious conditions that are potentially life-threatening and have a great impact on both a person's physical and emotional health; and

Whereas, too often, signs and symptoms are overlooked, and many individuals, families, and communities are unaware of the devastating mental and physical consequences of eating disorders, as well as the pressures, attitudes, and behaviors that shape them; and

1 Whereas, in the United States, 20 million women and 10 million men suffer
2 from clinically significant eating disorders at some time in their life; and

3 Whereas, these disorders affect people across all backgrounds and include
4 anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorders; and

5 Whereas, the National Eating Disorders Association strives to address the
6 many misconceptions regarding eating disorders and to highlight the availability of
7 resources for treatment and support; and

8 Whereas, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is a collaborative effort
9 consisting primarily of volunteers, including eating disorder professionals, health
10 care providers, students, educators, social workers, and individuals committed to
11 raising awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders and the need for early
12 intervention and treatment access; and

13 Whereas, eating disorders usually appear in adolescence and are associated
14 with substantial psychological problems, including depression, substance abuse,
15 and suicide; and

16 Whereas, eating disorders are serious illnesses, not lifestyle choices, and, in
17 fact, anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness; and

18 Whereas, many cases of eating disorders go undetected and less than one-third
19 of youth with eating disorders will receive treatment; and

20 Whereas, eating disorders experts have found that prompt intensive treatment
21 significantly improves the chances of recovery, and, therefore, it is important for
22 educators, medical providers, parents, and community members to be aware of the
23 warning signs and the symptoms of eating disorders; and

24 Whereas, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week will highlight the
25 importance of screenings for the early detection and intervention of eating disorders,

1 debunk myths, and present eating disorders as a public health issue with close
2 connections to substance abuse, trauma, obesity, and other mental health conditions,
3 such as depressions, anxiety, and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD); and

4 Whereas, the legislature recognizes the vital work of National Eating Disorders
5 Awareness Week in promoting public and media attention to the seriousness of
6 eating disorders and for working to improve education about the biological and
7 environmental causes of eating disorders, as well as how to help those who are
8 struggling with these debilitating diseases; now, therefore, be it

9 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That:*** the legislature
10 proclaims February 26, 2017, to March 4, 2017, as Eating Disorders Awareness Week
11 in Wisconsin; and

12 ***Be it further resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of
13 this resolution to the governor of the state of Wisconsin and the National Eating
14 Disorders Association.

15 (END)