



SPONSOR: Sen. Hocker & Rep. Briggs King & Rep. Dorsey Walker
Sens. Buckson, Hansen, Huxtable, Lockman, Pettyjohn,
Sokola, Wilson; Reps. Hensley, Morrison, Parker Selby,
Michael Smith

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023 AS "DEPRESSION AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

- 1 WHEREAS, major depression is one of the most common mental health problems in the United States; and
- 2 WHEREAS, there are many forms of depression such as persistent depressive disorder, postpartum depression,
- 3 seasonal affective disorder, bipolar disorder and others; and
- 4 WHEREAS, major depression can result in severe impairments that interfere or limit one's ability to carry out
- 5 major life activities, such as problems with sleep, eating, energy, concentration, or self-worth; and
- 6 WHEREAS, an estimated 21 million adults in the United States had at least one major depressive episode in 2020;
- 7 and
- 8 WHEREAS, the prevalence of adults with a major depressive episode was highest among individuals aged 18-25
- 9 (17.0%); and
- 10 WHEREAS, the prevalence of major depressive episode was highest among those who report having multiple
- 11 (two or more) races (15.9%); and
- 12 WHEREAS, an estimated 4.1 million children and adolescents, aged 12 to 17 in the United States, had at least one
- 13 major depressive episode in 2020; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the prevalence of major depressive episode was highest among adolescents reporting two or more
- 15 races (29.9%); and
- 16 WHEREAS, depression is not caused by personal weakness and is not a character defect or sign of weakness; and
- 17 WHEREAS, depression, even the most severe cases, can be treated. The earlier that treatment can begin, the more
- 18 effective it is; and
- 19 WHEREAS, it is prudent that Delawareans have an understanding of depression; and
- 20 WHEREAS, to accomplish this we must strip away the stigma of mental health and acknowledge it as a medical
- 21 condition that affects millions.
- 22 NOW, THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
24 Representatives concurring therein, that the month of October 2023 is recognized as “Depression Awareness Month” in the
25 State of Delaware.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages expanded efforts to keep Delaware residents
27 properly informed about depression awareness.

SYNOPSIS

This Senate Concurrent Resolution proclaims the month of October 2023 as “Depression Awareness Month” in the State of Delaware.

Author: Senator Hocker