



SPONSOR: Rep. Longhurst & Rep. Dorsey Walker & Sen. Pinkney  
Reps. Briggs King, Freel, Griffith, Heffernan, Hensley,  
Kowalko, Minor-Brown, S. Moore, Morrison, Osienski,  
Michael Smith, Yearick; Sens. Gay, Hansen,  
Mantzavinos, S. McBride, Pettyjohn, Sturgeon, Townsend

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 77

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MAY 2022 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, 1 in 5 adults in the United States experience mental illness each year, but less than half of them  
2 receive treatment; and

3 WHEREAS, over 100 Americans, teens through older adults, die by suicide each day, and suicide is the second  
4 leading cause of death among Americans aged 10-34; and

5 WHEREAS, mental illness and substance use disorders are involved in 1 out of every 8 emergency department  
6 visits by an adult in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, nationally, 37% of incarcerated adults and 70.4% of youth in the juvenile justice system have a  
8 diagnosed mental illness; and

9 WHEREAS, 11% of youth have a mood disorder, 10% of youth have a behavior or conduct disorder, and 8% of  
10 youth have an anxiety disorder; and

11 WHEREAS, mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of mental health and the advantages to individuals and our  
14 communities of providing resources to identify and treat mental health conditions as early as possible, the General  
15 Assembly passed HB 100 which will create a mental health services unit to fund a position for counselors, psychologists,  
16 social workers and mental health therapists in schools with kindergarten through 5th grade; and

17 WHEREAS, to continue the work of HB 100, the General Assembly has introduced and is considering HB 300  
18 which would create a mental health services unit in 6th through 8th grade; and

19 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic, social, and educational disruptions have served to  
20 exacerbate mental health conditions in both adults and children, making the availability of mental health resources more  
21 important than ever.

22 NOW, THEREFORE:

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the  
24 Senate concurring therein, that May is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Assembly calls upon citizens, government agencies, and others to  
26 raise mental health awareness and continue helping Delawareans to live longer, healthier, more productive lives.

SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes the month of May 2022 as Mental Health Awareness Month.