

Senator Birkholz offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 76.

A resolution to recognize September 2009 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Substance abuse disorders are a problem that affect everyone, regardless of social, economic, or ethnic background; and

Whereas, Based on information from the 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 22.2 million persons in the United States, or 9.1 percent of the population aged 12 or older, were classified with substance dependence or abuse in the past year. This figure exceeds the number of people living with coronary heart disease, cancer, and Alzheimer's disease combined; and

Whereas, Effective evidence-based treatment and support for the person, families, and children affected by substance abuse and dependence can help our young people succeed in school; provide children with capable and caring parents; reduce the incidence of drug-related crime; and help people get their lives back through restored health and productivity; thereby saving both lives and dollars; and

Whereas, Studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path of recovery. Substance abuse and alcohol addictions adversely affect millions of lives annually. This results in enormous financial and human costs, including absenteeism, impaired work productivity, property damage, incarceration, accidents, medical expenses, dependence on public assistance, child neglect, bodily injury, destruction of family ties, and loss of life; and

Whereas, Real accounts of long-term recovery with positive results can inspire others to ask for help and improve their own lives, the lives of their families, and benefit the entire community; and

Whereas, It is critical that we educate our community members to understand that substance abuse disorders are treatable; yet, sometimes create serious health care problems if not resolved. The resolution of dependence with proper support, care, and treatment improves the quality of life for all throughout our communities--all ages from all walks of life; and

Whereas, There is a need to erode social stigmas about addiction and educate the public, community organizations, public officials, and civic leaders about the impact of alcohol and other drugs on our community, the value of treatment, and the hope of recovery; and

Whereas, To help achieve this goal, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy invite all persons to participate in National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month each September; and

Whereas, The National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month is a national initiative and annual observance that highlights the societal benefits of substance abuse treatment. It also celebrates people in recovery, recognizes those in the treatment field who dedicate their lives to helping people recover from addiction, and promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse is possible; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby recognize September 2009 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Eaton County Recovery Month Coalition as a token of our esteem.