

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 82

Rep. Whiteford offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, The month of May is designated as Mental Health
4 Awareness Month by Mental Health America and its affiliates; and

5 Whereas, One in five adults in the United States have a mental
6 health condition and half of those have a co-occurring substance
7 use disorder; and

8 Whereas, Tens of thousands of Michigan residents live with
9 mental and behavioral health illnesses every year and many of them
10 struggle to get the care they need; and

11 Whereas, In any given year, around 336,000 adults in Michigan
12 are documented as having a serious mental illness and 84,000
13 adolescents experience a major depressive episode with only 44% of



1 all individuals receiving some form of treatment; and

2 Whereas, Recognizing the need for reform, the House of
3 Representatives convened the bi-partisan House C.A.R.E.S.
4 (Community Access Resources and Safety) Task Force in 2017 to
5 discuss our state's mental health system; and

6 Whereas, The House C.A.R.E.S. Task Force Report was published
7 in January 2018 and contained several recommendations to better
8 connect the state's residents with access to care, treatment, and
9 prevention to improve their quality of life; and

10 Whereas, Of these many recommendations, the report looked at
11 addressing treatment and prevention in our jails and judicial
12 system, training for individuals to recognize a mental health
13 crises, expanding opportunities for individuals to be connected
14 with care, filling the shortage of mental health providers,
15 delivering care early to adolescents, and ensuring our veterans are
16 connected with services; and

17 Whereas, The Michigan House of Representatives will continue
18 to reduce the stigmatization of mental illness and work toward
19 providing quality services to those that are living with mental
20 health disorders and addictions; now, therefore, be it

21 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
22 this legislative body declare May 2019 as Mental Health Awareness
23 Month in the state of Michigan.