

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 90

Reps. Martin, O'Malley, Beeler, Roth, Beson, Bellino, Wozniak, Paquette, Bezotte, Clements, Damoose, Bollin, Griffin, Rogers, Kuppa, Hood, Aiyash, Mueller and Meerman offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare May 2021 as Veteran Suicide Awareness  
2   Month in the state of Michigan.

3       Whereas, Veteran suicide is a major problem both in Michigan  
4   and nationwide; and

5       Whereas, According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs,  
6   Michigan veterans had a suicide rate of 33.8 per 100,000 in 2018,  
7   well above the overall state suicide rate of 18.8. Among veterans  
8   age 18 to 34, the rate was 65.1 per 100,000; with rates at 40.9 per  
9   100,000 for those age 35 to 54; and

10       Whereas, There were 6,435 veteran suicides nationwide in 2018

1 alone. By comparison, there have been 7,035 troop deaths in  
2 conflict zones since September 11th, 2001; and

3       Whereas, Suicide is indeed preventable through clinically  
4 based and community-based prevention efforts and interventions, as  
5 well as through research and surveillance within and beyond veteran  
6 affairs agencies; and

7       Whereas, The more connected servicemen and veterans are to  
8 services and their earned benefits, the less likely they are to  
9 self-harm; now, therefore, be it

10       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
11 this legislative body declare May 2021 as Veteran Suicide Awareness  
12 Month in the state of Michigan. We urge businesses, local  
13 governments, hospitals, and others to do their part in working  
14 toward zero suicides within Michigan's population of service  
15 members, veterans, and their families; and be it further

16       Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
17 Governor of Michigan, the Director of the Michigan Department of  
18 Health and Human Services, and the Director of the Michigan  
19 Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.