

No. R-317. House concurrent resolution designating February 11, 2016 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in Vermont.

(H.C.R.240)

Offered by: Representatives Cole of Burlington, Bancroft of Westford, Bartholomew of Hartland, Batchelor of Derby, Berry of Manchester, Beyor of Highgate, Bissonnette of Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Briglin of Thetford, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Burke of Brattleboro, Buxton of Tunbridge, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Clarkson of Woodstock, Condon of Colchester, Conquest of Newbury, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Dakin of Colchester, Dame of Essex, Davis of Washington, Deen of Westminster, Devereux of Mount Holly, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, Eastman of Orwell, Emmons of Springfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Fields of Bennington, Fiske of Enosburgh, Forguites of Springfield, Frank of Underhill, French of Randolph, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Gonzalez of Winooski, Grad of Moretown, Graham of Williamstown, Haas of Rochester, Head of South Burlington, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Montpelier, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Jewett of Ripton, Johnson of South Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keenan of St. Albans City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Krebs of South Hero, Krowinski of Burlington, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Lippert of Hinesburg, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Manwaring of Wilmington, Martin of Wolcott, Masland of Thetford, McCormack of Burlington, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Murphy of Fairfax, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, O'Brien of Richmond, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of Richford, Pearson of Burlington, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Quimby of Concord, Rachelson of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Ryerson of Randolph, Savage of Swanton, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Sheldon of Middlebury, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Till of Jericho, Toleno of Brattleboro, Toll of Danville, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Woodward of Johnson, Wright of Burlington, Yantachka of Charlotte, Young of Glover, and Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, approximately 100 Vermonters die of suicide each year, and 90 percent of these individuals were diagnosed with a possibly treatable mental illness, and

Whereas, suicide is the second leading cause of death among Vermonters 15 to 34 years of age and the third leading cause of death for those 35 to 44 years of age, and

Whereas, the Center for Health and Learning (CHL) in Brattleboro, including its Vermont Suicide Prevention Center and Vermont Suicide Prevention Coalition, is working to promote suicide prevention, and

Whereas, in his recent budget address, Governor Shumlin referred to the suicide death of a neighbor, explaining that his proposed increase in funding for the Vermont Suicide Prevention Center was intended to ensure help is available to others facing similar life challenges, and

Whereas, one ongoing project is Umatter for Schools, a two-day program that trains teams of school administrators, teachers, counselors, and nurses in order to establish a foundation for schools “to develop a comprehensive, asset-based approach to suicide prevention,” and

Whereas, current suicide prevention initiatives include the Zero Suicide program, part of a national effort that is “a commitment to suicide prevention in health and behavioral health care systems,” and

Whereas, another project is CAMS (Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality), which is based on a quarter-century of continuing research in clinical suicide prevention, and

Whereas, the Department of Mental Health is participating in Zero Suicide and also in a model CAMS program in northwestern Vermont, and

Whereas, the importance of suicide prevention programs will be highlighted in a presentation that the Vermont Suicide Prevention Coalition will make at the State House on Thursday, February 11, 2016, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates February 11, 2016 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send two copies of this resolution to the Center for Health and Learning.