



2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 75

September 12, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives TITTL, BALLWEG, HORLACHER, JACQUE, JAGLER, KOLSTE, MASON, MURSAU, NOVAK, PETRYK, RIPP, ROHRKASTE, SARGENT, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI, SPIROS, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, THIESFELDT, VANDERMEER and CROWLEY, cosponsored by Senators VUKMIR, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, HARSdorf, PETROWSKI, WIRCH and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Rules.

- 1 **Relating to:** designating the first week in October as Mental Illness Awareness
2 Week in Wisconsin.
- 3 Whereas, mental health is part of overall health; and
4 Whereas, one in five adults experience a mental health problem in any given
5 year; and
6 Whereas, approximately one-half of chronic mental illness begins by the age
7 of 14 and three-quarters begins by age 24; and
8 Whereas, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the United States and
9 the second leading cause of death among young adults, and 90 percent of people who
10 die by suicide have an underlying mental illness; and
11 Whereas, long delays, sometimes decades, can occur between the time
12 symptoms of mental illness first appear and when an individual gets help; and
13 Whereas, early identification and treatment can make a difference in the
14 successful management of mental illness and recovery; and

1 Whereas, it is important to maintain mental health and learn the symptoms of
2 mental illness in order to get help when it is needed; and

3 Whereas, every citizen and community can make a difference in helping end the
4 silence and stigma that, for too long, has surrounded mental illness and discouraged
5 people from getting help; and

6 Whereas, public education and civic activities can encourage mental health and
7 help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness; and

8 Whereas, in observance of Mental Illness Awareness Week, the legislature
9 encourages citizens, businesses, schools, and community organizations to learn more
10 about eliminating the stigma of mental illness; now, therefore, be it

11 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin
12 Legislature designates October 1 through October 7, 2017, as Mental Illness
13 Awareness Week in Wisconsin to shine a light on mental illness, fight stigma, provide
14 support, educate the public, and advocate for equal care.

15 (END)