

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 88

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITE

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 4, 2023, as Rural Mental Health Day
at the state capitol

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate May 4, 2023, as Rural Mental Health Day at the state capitol.

3 WHEREAS, the mental health and well-being of all children, youth, adults and
4 families in Louisiana are of fundamental importance; and

5 WHEREAS, mental health is essential to each person's ability to achieve his or her
6 full potential, and mental health disorders can affect the ability of an individual to carry out
7 daily tasks, establish or maintain relationships, or pursue other fundamental endeavors; and

8 WHEREAS, rural areas comprise roughly eighty percent of Louisiana's total
9 geographic area and have a chronic shortage of mental health professionals; and

10 WHEREAS, there are approximately 179,000 adults in the state who are living with
11 a serious mental illness, including bipolar disorder, severe depression, and schizophrenia,
12 and one in six of Louisiana's children experience a mental health disorder each year; and

13 WHEREAS, approximately one individual dies by suicide every twelve hours in
14 Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, the delays in treatment for mental health conditions are longer than
16 many other health conditions; and

17 WHEREAS, early and effective treatment of mental health conditions is critical to
18 reducing the number of individuals and families who find themselves in mental health crises
19 and to promoting healing; and

20 WHEREAS, recovery from a mental illness requires access to professionals and
21 rehabilitative services and involves families and caregivers as allies in recovery; and

1 WHEREAS, individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full,
2 productive lives.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Thursday, May 4, 2023, as Rural Mental
5 Health Day at the state capitol and hereby encourages citizens of the great state of Louisiana
6 to raise awareness of mental health conditions and services and to break the stigma
7 surrounding mental illness.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 88 Original

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