

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY REPRESENTATIVE MILLER

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 1, 2024, as Maternal Mental Health Awareness Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate Wednesday, May 1, 2024, as Maternal Mental Health Awareness Day in the  
3 state of Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services  
5 Department, Office of Women's Health reports that one in eight women experiences  
6 postpartum depression in the year following birth; and

7 WHEREAS, approximately seventy-five percent of women experience maternal  
8 mental health conditions, which include but are not limited to perinatal and postpartum  
9 depression, anxiety, and birth-related post traumatic stress disorder; and

10 WHEREAS, many of those maternal mental health conditions go undiagnosed and  
11 untreated; and

12 WHEREAS, death by suicide is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality and  
13 accounts for approximately twenty percent of postpartum deaths; and

14 WHEREAS, many maternal deaths are preventable with diagnosis and treatment; and

15 WHEREAS, maternal death does not only impact families negatively, it also impacts  
16 the economy and the state; and

17 WHEREAS, according to America's Health Rankings, twelve percent of women in  
18 this state reported an experience with postpartum depression after childbirth; and

19 WHEREAS, according to the Birth Injury Lawyers Group, Louisiana ranks forty-  
20 fourth for maternal mortality; and

1 WHEREAS, this state has consistently been ranked among the top states for maternal  
2 mortality; and

3 WHEREAS, to combat these statistics, Woman's Hospital is opening a perinatal  
4 mental health unit in September 2024; and

5 WHEREAS, the perinatal mental health unit will be one of four in the United States  
6 and the only one in Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, the perinatal mental health unit intends to serve women in this state  
8 throughout their pregnancies and up to one year postpartum, providing them with critical  
9 health services.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
11 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, May 1, 2024, as Maternal  
12 Mental Health Awareness Day in Louisiana and recognize the commitment of Woman's  
13 Hospital to provide mental health services to pregnant and postpartum women in Louisiana.

14 BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
15 chief executive officer of Woman's Hospital.

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#### 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)]

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HR 188 Original

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