

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 75

BY SENATOR MCMATH

A RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, the United States Health and Human Services Department, Office on Women's Health reports that one in eight women experience postpartum depression in the year following birth; and

WHEREAS, death by suicide is a leading cause of maternal mortality and accounts for approximately 20% of postpartum deaths; and

WHEREAS, the majority of these types of deaths are preventable; and

WHEREAS, maternal death results in negative family and economic impacts to families and the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, 12% of women in Louisiana reported experiencing postpartum depression after giving birth; and

WHEREAS, approximately 75% of women experiencing maternal mental health conditions such as perinatal and postpartum depression, anxiety, and birth-related PTSD, go undiagnosed and untreated; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks 46th for maternal mortality and has consistently been ranked in the top five states for maternal mortality; and

WHEREAS, Woman's Hospital is opening a perinatal mental health unit in September 2024, which will be only one of four in the United States and the only one in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, this unit will serve women throughout their pregnancy and up to one year postpartum, providing women in Louisiana with critical health services.

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

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

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE