

1 SJR76
2 190759-3
3 By Senator Allen
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 20-FEB-18

1 SJR76

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4 ENROLLED, SJR76,

5 RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 26 THROUGH MARCH 4, 2018, AS
6 NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK.

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8 WHEREAS, the 2018 Theme of National Eating Disorders
9 Awareness Week is "Let's Get Real" which will focus on
10 expanding the conversation around eating disorders to include
11 the diverse perspectives of millions of people affected;
12 eating disorders are shrouded in stigma, secrecy, and
13 stereotypes and the goal of the 2018 campaign is to shine a
14 light on these deadly illnesses, dispel misinformation, and
15 connect people with the support they need to recover; and

16 WHEREAS, eating disorders are serious conditions
17 that are potentially life-threatening and have a great impact
18 on a person's physical and emotional health, signs and
19 symptoms are often overlooked, and many are unaware of the
20 devastating mental and physical consequences of eating
21 disorders, as well as the pressures, attitudes, and behaviors
22 which shape them; and

23 WHEREAS, in the United States, 20 million women and
24 10 million men suffer from clinically significant eating
25 disorders at some time in their lives; these disorders affect

1 people across all backgrounds and include anorexia nervosa,
2 bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorders; and

3 WHEREAS, the National Eating Disorders Association
4 strives to address the many misconceptions regarding eating
5 disorders and to highlight the availability of resources for
6 treatment and support; and

7 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is
8 a collaborative effort of volunteers, including eating
9 disorder professionals, health care providers, students,
10 educators, social workers, and individuals committed to
11 raising awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders
12 and the need for early intervention and treatment access; and

13 WHEREAS, eating disorders usually appear in
14 adolescence and are associated with substantial psychological
15 problems, including depression, substance abuse, and suicide;
16 eating disorders are serious illnesses, not lifestyle choices;
17 anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, many cases of eating disorders go
20 undetected, and less than one-third of youth with eating
21 disorders actually receive treatment; and

22 WHEREAS, eating disorder experts have found that
23 prompt intensive treatment significantly improves the chances
24 of recovery; it is important for educators, medical providers,

1 parents, and community members to be aware of the warning
2 signs and the symptoms of eating disorders; and

3 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week
4 will encourage people to share their stories and experiences
5 with disordered eating and body image struggles; and highlight
6 the importance of screenings for the early detection and
7 intervention of eating disorders; it will bust myths and
8 present eating disorders as a public health issue that affects
9 people, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, size, or
10 background; and

11 WHEREAS, recognition of the vital work of National
12 Eating Disorders Awareness Week in promoting public and media
13 attention to the seriousness of eating disorders and working
14 to improve education about their causes will help those who
15 are struggling with these debilitating diseases; now
16 therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That February 26 through March 4,
19 2018, is recognized as National Eating Disorders Awareness
20 Week.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
22 resolution be provided to the National Eating Disorders
23 Association and the Alabama Department of Public Health.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR76
Senate 22-FEB-18
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Adopted: 01-MAR-18

By: Senator Allen