



State of Tennessee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

By Representatives Staples, Ogles, Hazlewood, Littleton, Rudder, Clemmons, Curcio, Zachary, White, Tillis, Sanderson, Halford, Thompson, Whitson, Faison, Terry, Moon, Hicks, Leatherwood, Helton, Crawford, Haston, Smith, Cepicky, Lynn, Stewart, Chism, Eldridge, Wright, Powell, Camper, Coley, Howell, Williams, Hall, Cochran, Gant, Kumar, Byrd, Sherrell, Jerry Sexton, Lamar, Hakeem, Weaver, Hurt, Dunn, Holsclaw, Curtis Johnson, Garrett, Freeman, Boyd, Doggett, Todd, Parkinson, Hodges, Daniel, Lafferty, Potts, Keisling, Beck, Carr, Bricken, Dixie, Baum, Calfee, Carter, Cooper, DeBerry, Farmer, Griffey, Hawk, Matthew Hill, Timothy Hill, Holt, Hulse, Jernigan, Gloria Johnson, Lamberth, Love, Miller, Mitchell, Moody, Powers, Ramsey, Reedy, Rudd, Russell, Cameron Sexton, Shaw, Sparks, Towns, Travis, Van Huss, Vaughan, Windle, and Mr. Speaker Casada

and

Senators Briggs, Massey, Akbari, Gilmore, Yarbro

A RESOLUTION to recognize teen suicide as a health crisis in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, suicide is the second-leading cause of death for Tennesseans between the ages of ten and eighteen; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third-leading cause of death for Tennesseans between the ages of ten and nineteen; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the third-leading cause of death for Tennesseans between the ages of ten and twenty-four; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, there were 142 youth deaths by suicide, representing the ten to twenty-four age group, with fifty-one of these representing children between the ages of ten to seventeen. Suicide by children increased by 24.4 percent from 2016 to 2017; and more alarmingly, suicide by children increased by 54.5 percent from 2015 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, nationally, suicide rates among youth ages fifteen to twenty-four have increased more than 200 percent in the last fifty years; and

WHEREAS, while no single suicide prevention effort is enough or appropriate, identification of at-risk youth before suicidal behavior emerges is crucial in combating teen suicide; and

WHEREAS, suicide is not only a mental health issue, but it is also a public health issue; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the General Assembly recognize teen suicide as a health crisis in Tennessee and acknowledge the need for prevention, research, and support for systems to address this crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the Tennessee Department of Health;

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ADOPTED: January 27, 2020



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 3rd day of February 2020



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR