

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2018

HR 1001

4
5 By: Representative Dotson

6
7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE
9 PREVALENCE OF EATING DISORDERS AND SUPPORTING THE
10 EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ON EATING DISORDERS.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO RAISE AWARENESS
15 OF THE PREVALENCE OF EATING DISORDERS AND
16 SUPPORTING THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ON
17 EATING DISORDERS.

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20 WHEREAS, the 2018 theme of the National Eating Disorders Awareness Week
21 was "Let's Get Real", and focused on expanding the conversation around eating
22 disorders to include the diverse perspectives of the millions of people
23 affected; and

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25 WHEREAS, as eating disorders are shrouded in stigma, secrecy, and
26 stereotypes, the goal of this year's campaign was to shine a light on these
27 deadly illnesses, dispel misinformation, and connect people with the support
28 they need to recover; and

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30 WHEREAS, eating disorders are serious conditions that are potentially
31 life threatening and have a great impact on both a person's physical and
32 emotional health; and

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34 WHEREAS, too often, signs and symptoms are overlooked and many
35 individuals, families, and communities are unaware of the devastating mental
36 and physical consequences of eating disorders, as well as the pressures,



1 attitudes, and behaviors that shape them; and

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3 WHEREAS, in the United States, twenty million (20,000,000) women and
4 ten million (10,000,000) men suffer from clinically significant eating
5 disorders at some time in their lives; and

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7 WHEREAS, eating disorders affect people across all backgrounds, and
8 include anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorders; and

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10 WHEREAS, the National Eating Disorders Association strives to address
11 the many misconceptions regarding eating disorders and highlight the
12 availability of resources for treatment and support; and

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14 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week is a collaborative
15 effort consisting primarily of volunteers, including eating disorder
16 professionals, healthcare providers, students, educators, social workers, and
17 individuals committed to raising awareness of the dangers surrounding eating
18 disorders and the need for early intervention and treatment access; and

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20 WHEREAS, eating disorders are usually diagnosed in adolescence and can
21 be accompanied by other substantial psychological problems, including
22 depression, substance abuse, and suicide; and

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24 WHEREAS, eating disorders are serious illnesses, and not lifestyle
25 choices; and

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27 WHEREAS, anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness;
28 and

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30 WHEREAS, many cases of eating disorders go undetected and less than
31 one-third of youth with eating disorders will receive treatment; and

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33 WHEREAS, eating disorder experts have found that prompt intensive
34 treatment significantly improves the chances of recovery; and

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36 WHEREAS, it is critical for educators, medical providers, parents, and

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

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4 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorders Awareness Week encourages people to
5 share their stories and experiences with eating disorders and body image
6 struggles and highlights the importance of screenings for the early detection
7 of and intervention in eating disorders, dispels myths, and presents eating
8 disorders as a public health issue that affects all kinds of people,
9 regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, size, or background; and

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11 WHEREAS, the National Eating Disorders Association plays an important
12 role in promoting public and media attention to the seriousness of eating
13 disorders and for working to improve education about their biological and
14 environmental causes, as well as providing information on how to help
15 individuals who are struggling with these deadly illnesses,

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17 NOW THEREFORE,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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21 THAT the House of Representatives recognize the importance of National
22 Eating Disorders Awareness Week in raising awareness of the prevalence of
23 eating disorders across the nation and support educating people about these
24 illnesses.

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be
27 provided to Dr. Angela Mensah by the Chief Clerk of the House of
28 Representatives.