



HR0040

LRB104 07472 ECR 17514 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Law enforcement officers are greatly affected by  
3 mental health issues; according to the National Library of  
4 Medicine, when compared to the general population, police  
5 personnel have approximately twice the prevalence of  
6 post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression, and they  
7 are associated with a lower quality of life; and

8 WHEREAS, Depression and any related mental illness are  
9 serious risks for law enforcement officers, who are often  
10 exposed to high levels of stress and trauma; and

11 WHEREAS, Studies have found that law enforcement officers  
12 experience depression at nearly double the rate of the general  
13 population, with 12% of police officers reporting depression  
14 compared to 6.8% by the rest of the population; and

15 WHEREAS, Law enforcement officers are often reluctant to  
16 acknowledge feelings of mental illness out of fear of being  
17 perceived as weak or unfit for duty; and

18 WHEREAS, This reluctance, combined with a lack of mental  
19 health resources tailored to the law enforcement community,  
20 can result in mental illness being left untreated, leading to  
21 severe mental health crises, including suicide; and

1           WHEREAS, Between 2011 and 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor  
2           Statistics reported the occurrence of 24 workplace suicides by  
3           police personnel and six workplace suicides by correctional  
4           staff; and

5           WHEREAS, The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is  
6           required by law to keep information on suicide in law  
7           enforcement through the Law Enforcement Officers Suicide Data  
8           Collection Program (LEOSDCP); and

9           WHEREAS, The LEOSDCP is meant to track the rate of suicide  
10          among law enforcement officers to aid agencies in better  
11          understanding and preventing suicides among current and former  
12          law enforcement officers and corrections employees; and

13          WHEREAS, The LEOSDCP report has not been updated and there  
14          is still a high suicide rate in law enforcement; and

15          WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has implemented programs  
16          and passed laws to remove obstacles and lower suicide rates  
17          among officers; and

18          WHEREAS, According to the National Alliance on Mental  
19          Illness (NAMI), despite these programs and laws, Illinois  
20          police still face major hurdles when seeking mental health

1 treatment; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2018, NAMI reported that four police officers  
3 and one firefighter in Chicago died by suicide compared to one  
4 police officer and one firefighter who died in the line of  
5 duty; and

6 WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed  
7 in the month of May in the U.S. since 1949, and it continues to  
8 be observed to raise awareness on mental health; and

9 WHEREAS, Increasing awareness on law enforcement distress  
10 syndrome and other mental illnesses is a key component in  
11 safeguarding law enforcement officers' mental health to ensure  
12 the effective discharge of their duties in protecting lives  
13 and properties; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
16 we declare May 2025 as Law Enforcement Mental Health Awareness  
17 Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we urge the Federal Bureau of Investigation  
19 (FBI) to effectively keep information on the prevalence of  
20 suicide among law enforcement through the Law Enforcement  
21 Officers Suicide Data Collection Program (LEOSDCP) in order to

1 help reduce the rate of suicide in law enforcement in the U.S.;

2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we urge the State of Illinois to establish

4 its own LEOSDCP to keep statistics on suicide in law

5 enforcement to reduce the profession's suicide rate statewide;

6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That we support the implementation of programs

8 to encourage the reporting and treatment of mental health

9 illnesses among law enforcement officers.