



SR0912

LRB103 40244 MST 72196 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, Millions of people in the U.S. are affected by mental illness each year; according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), one in five U.S. adults experience mental illness each year, and one in six U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year; and

3

7

WHEREAS, Mental health treatment can help make recovery a reality but is not available to everyone; according to NAMI, 47.2% of U.S. adults with mental illness received treatment in 2021, and 50.6% of U.S. youth aged 6-17 with a mental health disorder received treatment in 2016; and

8

9

10

11

12

WHEREAS, There are various organizations and agencies in Illinois that are paving pathways for identification and treatment of mental illness; and

13

14

15

WHEREAS, Interagency efforts to improve access to services are led by the Chief Officer for Children's Behavioral Health Transformation and the Chief Behavioral Health Officer by streamlining access to care and providing families with consistent transparent solutions to mental health challenges; and

16

17

18

19

20

21

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed

1 in May in the U.S. since 1949, a tradition that continues to
2 this day to raise awareness of mental health; and

3 WHEREAS, When facing mental or behavioral health concerns,
4 all Illinoisans, regardless of age, zip code, socio-economic
5 status, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, race,
6 or ethnicity should have the right to be:

7 (1) Educated about mental health and social-emotional
8 well-being;

9 (2) Treated with dignity and respect;

10 (3) Able to seek help for mental health challenges
11 free from shame or stigma;

12 (4) Informed about eligibility for mental health and
13 substance use disorder services and programs in
14 understandable language;

15 (5) Active in developing one's own mental health care
16 plan;

17 (6) Able to initiate, disengage from, or resume
18 voluntary services;

19 (7) Assured privacy and confidentiality;

20 (8) Supported to meet the needs of one's own family;
21 and

22 (9) Aware of how to find and access mental health
23 services and resources; and

24 WHEREAS, When facing mental or behavioral health concerns,

1 all Illinoisans, regardless of age, zip code, socio-economic
2 status, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, race,
3 or ethnicity should have the right to receive:

4 (1) Assistance in finding, navigating, and choosing
5 mental health services that fit with one's needs, goals,
6 and values;

7 (2) Healing-centered care that focuses on recovery,
8 strengths, and goals that supports overall well-being and
9 inclusion in community and family life;

10 (3) Timely and compassionate healing-centered crisis
11 intervention services;

12 (4) Culturally informed services and supports that
13 consider the unique needs of each culture and language;

14 (5) Access to interpretation and translation to
15 facilitate participation in needed services;

16 (6) Family-focused services that empower and educate
17 parents and caregivers to be prepared and supported in
18 raising healthy children;

19 (7) Services in one's own community or community of
20 choice;

21 (8) Information, services, and documentation in the
22 language of one's choice;

23 (9) High quality, evidence-based, responsive mental
24 health care in the appropriate, least restrictive setting
25 of one's choosing;

26 (10) Peer support services;

1 (11) Accurate diagnosis(es) by qualified
2 professionals;

3 (12) Access to affordable and accessible medication
4 when needed;

5 (13) Information and documentation about one's own
6 mental health care;

7 (14) Information about and assistance with
8 understanding the evidence for the effectiveness of
9 services, the estimated timeframes for receiving care, the
10 estimated cost of care, and the availability of financial
11 assistance;

12 (15) Care that is coordinated across treatment
13 providers, state agencies, and funders; and

14 (16) Appropriate accommodations to access other rights
15 such as K-12 education; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we endorse these
18 principles as the Mental Health Bill of Rights in an effort to
19 reinforce Illinois' commitment to providing access to families
20 seeking diagnosis and/or treatment of a mental or behavioral
21 health concern; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
23 delivered to the Governor and the Director of the Department
24 of Healthcare and Family Services.