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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Eating disorders can affect all individuals
3 regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic
4 status; and

5 WHEREAS, Up to 30 million individuals in the United States
6 suffer from eating disorders, such as anorexia nervosa,
7 bulimia, and binge eating; and

8 WHEREAS, Almost 50% of individuals with eating disorders
9 meet the criteria for depression; and

10 WHEREAS, Approximately 95% of those struggling with eating
11 disorders are between the ages of 12 and 25, with anorexia
12 nervosa being the third most common chronic illness among
13 adolescents with a mortality rate 12 times higher than the
14 death rate associated with all causes of death for females
15 between the ages of 15 and 24; and

16 WHEREAS, An estimated 10-15% of individuals with anorexia
17 nervosa or bulimia are male, although female individuals are
18 more likely to develop eating disorders; and

19 WHEREAS, Males are less likely to seek treatment because of
20 the societal perception that eating disorders are "female

1 diseases"; and

2 WHEREAS, Only one in 10 individuals with eating disorders
3 receive treatment and only 35% of people who receive treatment
4 for eating disorders obtain treatment at a specialized facility
5 for eating disorders; and

6 WHEREAS, Eating disorders have the highest mortality rate
7 of any mental illness, with one study ranging from 4% mortality
8 due to anorexia nervosa, 3.9% due to bulimia, and 5.2% due to
9 other eating disorders not specified; and

10 WHEREAS, The mortality rate due to eating disorders may be
11 higher because medical complications, such as heart failure,
12 organ failure, malnutrition, or suicide, are reported as the
13 cause of death instead of the eating disorder that led to the
14 death of the individual; and

15 WHEREAS, The causes of eating disorders can be comprised of
16 multiple factors, such as genetics, metabolism, psychological
17 aspects including control, coping mechanisms, trauma,
18 personality factors, family issues, and social issues
19 including a society that promotes thinness and media that
20 spread this message; and

21 WHEREAS, The National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)

1 holds an annual conference to examine treatment and prevention
2 of eating disorders that can affect the loved ones of family
3 and friends; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 designate the week of February 21 to February 27 of 2016 as
7 "Eating Disorder Awareness Week" in the State of Illinois in
8 concurrence with National Eating Disorder Awareness Week for
9 the purpose of urging both government entities and the
10 citizenry to become aware and educated on the subject of eating
11 disorders in an effort to love and support our loved ones
12 struggling with such disorders; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That people are urged to wear periwinkle colored
14 ribbons, which is the color of eating disorder awareness, every
15 day of Eating Disorder Awareness Week and have ribbons
16 available at their offices for those who want to join in the
17 awareness effort; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we extend our sincerest thank you to the
19 National Eating Disorders Association for hosting its NEDA
20 Conference in Chicago from September 29 to October 1, 2016.