



## *The Colorado State Senate*

SENATE RESOLUTION 00-008

BY SENATORS Thiebaut, Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Congrove, Dennis, Dyer, Epps, Evans, Feeley, Hernandez, Hillman, Lacy, Lamborn, Linkhart, Martinez, Matsunaka, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Powers, Reeves, Rupert, Sullivant, Tanner, Tebedo, Teck, Wattenberg, Weddig, and Wham.

CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE MONTH OF MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes that good mental health is critical for the well-being and vitality of our families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Mental illness will strike one in 5 Americans each year regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, One in 5 children suffers from a diagnosable mental or emotional disorder and one in 10 children has a serious disorder that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, addiction, and even suicide; and

WHEREAS, Mental disorders are more common than cancer and lung and heart disease combined, making mental illness the most prevalent health problem in America today; and

WHEREAS, On December 13, 1999, Surgeon General David Satcher released the first-ever report to focus on mental health and mental illness stating that mental illness is the second leading cause of disability in the United States and that over the last two decades there has been a scientific revolution in studying the brain and behavior leading to the development of new and more effective treatments and services for people with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, On May 3, 2000, Thomas H. Bornemann, Ed.D., Rear Admiral and Assistant Surgeon General, will make a presentation to the public in Denver on the Surgeon General's Report on Mental Health; and

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association of Colorado, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Colorado, the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, the Mental Health Services Division within the Department of Human Services, the National Mental Health Association, and the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, and their partners observe Mental Health Month each year during May to raise awareness of mental health, mental illness, and insurance discrimination against people with mental illnesses; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

That May 2000, is proclaimed as Mental Health Month in Colorado. The General Assembly calls upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private entities and institutions, businesses, and schools in Colorado to recommit our state to increasing the awareness and understanding of mental illnesses and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illness.

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Ray Powers  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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Patricia K. Dicks  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE