



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-1036

BY REPRESENTATIVES Stafford, Alexander, Bacon, Berry, Borodkin, Boyd, Cadman, Chavez, Clapp, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Daniel, Dean, Decker, Fairbank, Fritz, Garcia, Groff, Grossman, Hefley, Hodge, Hoppe, Jahn, Jameson, Johnson, Kester, King, Larson, Lawrence, Lee, Mace, Madden, Marshall, Miller, Mitchell, Nunez, Paschall, Plant, Ragsdale, Rhodes, Rippy, Romanoff, Saliman, Sanchez, Schultheis, Scott, Sinclair, Smith, Snook, Spence, Spradley, Stengel, Swenson, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Vigil, Webster, Weddig, White, Williams S., Williams T., Witwer, and Young;

also SENATORS Hernandez, Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Cairns, Chlouber, Dyer (Arapahoe), Dyer (Durango), Entz, Epps, Evans, Fitzgerald, Gordon, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hillman, Lamborn, Linkhart, Matsunaka, May, McElhany, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Teck, Thiebaut, Tupa, and Windels.

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

WHEREAS, On December 13, 1999, United States Surgeon General David Satcher released a report entitled "Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General", wherein he proclaimed that mental health is fundamental to general health, is indispensable to personal well-being and to family and interpersonal relationships, and is a critical component of a child's learning and general health; and

WHEREAS, The mental health report released by the Surgeon General confirms that mental illness affects one in 5 Americans every year regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, The mental health report released by the Surgeon General further finds that one in 10 children and adolescents suffer so severely from mental illness that it causes impairment; and

WHEREAS, The State of Colorado has tens of thousands of citizens who suffer from mental illness but receive no mental health services; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization has determined that mental illness is the second leading cause of disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The mental health report released by the Surgeon General finds that long-term consequences of untreated childhood disorders are costly in both human and fiscal terms; and

WHEREAS, The consequences of not treating mental illness include suicides, inappropriate incarcerations, and significant human suffering; and

WHEREAS, The mental health report released by the Surgeon General finds that a range of treatments exists for most mental illnesses and the efficacy of mental health treatments are well documented; and

WHEREAS, The guiding principles of community mental health care are comprehensiveness, cost-efficiency, effective management, and high-quality and consumer-responsive services; and

WHEREAS, The State of Colorado has made a commitment to adopt the guiding principles of community mental health care and to provide a community-based system of mental health care for children with mental health needs and their families; and

WHEREAS, The Mental Health Association of Colorado, the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Colorado, the Colorado Cornerstone Initiative, the Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council, the Mental Health Services Division within the Department of Human Services, and their partners observe Mental Health Month each year during May to raise public awareness and understanding of mental health and mental illness; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

(1) That May 2001, is proclaimed Mental Health Month in Colorado.

(2) That the General Assembly calls upon the citizens, government departments, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all persons with mental illness.

Doug Dean
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Stan Matsunaka
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Judith Rodrigue
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE