

HR 9103

2009

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 22, 2009, as "Suicide Prevention Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, in 2007, 2,570 Floridians died by suicide, an average of 7 people per day, and

WHEREAS, the epidemic of suicide has left all families and communities susceptible to its devastation and remains a serious public health problem, and

WHEREAS, the education and awareness of gatekeepers such as parents and educators are recognized as two of the most crucial factors in suicide intervention and prevention, and

WHEREAS, surveys indicate that children and adults informed on the warning signs of depression and suicidal ideation will be more likely to predict and prevent such an act, and

WHEREAS, increasing community awareness about the importance of screening and treating mental illness can save lives, and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental illness and suicide must be eliminated, and help-seeking behaviors must be encouraged for those at risk, and

WHEREAS, a great many suicides are preventable, and

WHEREAS, comprehensive, synergistic approaches emphasizing strategy and multiagency collaboration and cooperation are being implemented to reduce the current suicide rate, and

WHEREAS, key efforts, such as community mobilization, the launching of public information campaigns, and specialty training for caregivers and community leaders, are being

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29 | established to meet the goal of lowering Florida's suicide rate,
30 | NOW, THEREFORE,

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32 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
33 | Florida:

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35 | That the House of Representatives recognizes April 22,
36 | 2009, as "Suicide Prevention Day" in Florida in order to raise
37 | suicide awareness, promote public education on the warning signs
38 | of suicide, and recognize suicide prevention efforts as crucial
39 | to averting the tragic loss of human life.