House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the week of February 21-27, 2022, as "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in Florida.

WHEREAS, eating disorders affect 28.8 million Americans or 9 percent of the United States population, of which 1.8 million are Floridians, and

WHEREAS, eating disorders, specifically anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge eating disorder, avoidant restrictive food intake disorder, and other feeding or eating disorders, are complex, biologically based illnesses, and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has increased the incidence of eating disorder behaviors and diagnoses, and has exacerbated eating disorders in patient populations, often with more severe symptoms and comorbidities, and

WHEREAS, eating disorders have no boundaries with respect to gender, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, body shape and weight, ability, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status, and

WHEREAS, eating disorders are highly prevalent among servicemembers and veterans of the United States Armed Forces, and

WHEREAS, eating disorders are associated with serious physical health consequences, including irregular heartbeat, heart disease and heart failure, kidney failure, osteoporosis,
gastric rupture, tooth decay, obesity, gallbladder disease, diabetes, and death, and

WHEREAS, at least once every 52 minutes someone in the United States dies as a direct result of an eating disorder, culminating in 10,200 deaths each year, and

WHEREAS, anorexia nervosa has the second highest mortality rate among all psychiatric illnesses in the United States, and

WHEREAS, many organizations are dedicated to outreach, education, support, and early intervention for eating disorders, including the National Alliance for Eating Disorders, which is headquartered in Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the week of February 21-27, 2022, is recognized as "Eating Disorders Awareness Week" in Florida and that all Floridians are encouraged to become better informed about eating disorders.