

By: Coleman

H.R. No. 1919

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Mental health professionals and families across the
2 country are observing National Children's Mental Health Awareness
3 Day on May 8, 2007, in an effort to promote the recognition and
4 successful treatment of mental health problems in children and
5 youth; and

6 WHEREAS, "Thriving in the Community" is the theme of this
7 second annual celebration, which was developed by the Substance
8 Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to coincide with
9 both Mental Health Month and National Children's Mental Health
10 Week; and

11 WHEREAS, According to the 2005 U.S. Surgeon General Report on
12 Mental Health, approximately one in every five young people in this
13 country experiences the signs and symptoms of a mental health
14 problem over the course of a year; moreover, at least one in every
15 10 has a serious emotional disturbance; mental health problems
16 include depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and
17 anxiety, conduct, and eating disorders, all of which can severely
18 disrupt functioning; and

19 WHEREAS, Unfortunately, an estimated two-thirds of all young
20 people with mental health problems are not getting the help they
21 need; when left untreated, mental health problems can lead to
22 school failure, family conflicts, drug abuse, violence, and even
23 suicide, which is the sixth-leading cause of death for
24 5-to-14-year-olds; and

1 WHEREAS, Families, educators, and health care providers
2 should be aware of warning signs that may point to mental health
3 disorders and, if recognized, seek or recommend appropriate
4 treatment; services may include counseling, medical care,
5 residential care, day treatment, education services, legal
6 assistance, rights protection, transportation, or case management;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Affecting all aspects of life, mental health
9 problems in children are just as real and painful as they are in
10 adults; families and communities can work together to develop
11 effective treatment so that children with mental health needs can
12 thrive; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
14 Legislature hereby recognize May 8, 2007, as National Children's
15 Mental Health Awareness Day and encourage all Texans to wear green
16 and turn their headlights on in recognition of this significant
17 occasion.