

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, April 29, 2015, as "Eating Disorder Awareness and Prevention Day" at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, eating disorders develop as a result of an unhealthy relationship with food and physical weight that can interfere with all areas of a person's life; and

WHEREAS, a person's thoughts become preoccupied with food, weight, or exercise, resulting in a person struggling with unrealistic, self-critical evaluation and body image; and

WHEREAS, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders recognizes anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge eating disorder, and other specified feeding and eating disorders; and

WHEREAS, there are no conclusive causes of eating disorders, even with multiple factors such as genetics, metabolism, and psychological issues that include self-control, coping skills, trauma, personality factors, along with family and social issues; and

WHEREAS, more than fifty percent of adults with eating disorders meet the criteria for depression, and fifty percent of children between the ages of eleven and thirteen see themselves as overweight, making eating disorders one of the top five, most common illnesses among adolescents in the United States; and

WHEREAS, only one in ten men and women with eating disorders receive treatment, and only thirty-five percent of people receive treatment at specialized facilities; and

WHEREAS, approximately eight million women in the United States suffer from an eating disorder, and up to twenty-four million people of all ages and genders also suffer from an eating disorder; and

WHEREAS, the mortality rate associated with anorexia nervosa is twelve times higher than the death rate associated with all causes of death for females between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the National Eating Disorder Association, the Miss Louisiana and Miss America Scholarship organizations, there are numerous and successful platforms that have been created to enhance inspiration, create renewed hope, and provide added treatment facilities to those struggling with all eating disorders.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Wednesday, April 29, 2015, as "Eating Disorder Awareness and Prevention Day" at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Kelly Bernard.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE