#MENTALHEALTHREFORM

S 2680, *the Mental Health Reform Act of 2016*

1 in 5 Americans have a mental health condition. With the right care, recovery is possible. But, most people aren't getting the care they need because America's mental health system is broken.

Here are the facts:

- America's suicide rate is the highest it's been in 30 years.
- Half of Americans with mental illness did not get *any* mental health care in the past year.
- Mental health care is unfairly restricted by many health insurance plans.

It's time to strengthen our nation's mental health system. Bring the *Mental Health Reform Act of 2016*, S 2680, to a vote.

S 2680 combats suicide in our schools and communities, so precious lives are saved.

- Authorizes the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline program
- Extends the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act to provide suicide prevention for all ages and creates a national suicide technical assistance center

S 2680 increases the mental health workforce, so more trained professionals are available to help.

- Creates a Minority Fellowship Program to increase the number of qualified, culturally-competent mental health professionals
- Reauthorizes grants to increase training of mental health professionals
- Authorizes grants for telehealth child psychiatry to provide remote psychiatric expertise to pediatric mental health and primary care practices

S 2680 strengthens enforcement of the mental health parity law, so health plans are held accountable for the coverage people paid for.

- Requires audits of plans that have five or more parity violations and reports to Congress on the result of completed federal parity investigations
- Requires additional federal guidance to help plans comply with the parity law
- Requires a federal action plan to enhance parity enforcement and a GAO parity study

S 2680 invests in early intervention, so people get the right mental health care at the right time to promote healthy lives.

- Requires 5% of state mental health block grant funds to be used to support evidence-based programs that address early serious mental illness, including psychotic disorders (such as First Episode Psychosis, or FEP, programs)
- Establishes grants for effective early childhood mental health programs

S 2680 promotes integration of health and mental health care, so people get care that treats the whole person, not just one condition.

- Supports training of medical residents, nurses, physician assistants and social workers to provide mental health services in integrated care settings in underserved areas
- Creates grants to support integrated primary and behavioral health care services

S 2680 strengthens community crisis response systems, so people experiencing a psychiatric crisis can get help sooner, before their condition worsens.

- Authorizes grants to enhance community crisis response services for people with mental illness or substance use disorders
- Authorizes grants to develop and maintain databases of crisis stabilization and psychiatric inpatient beds and beds at residential treatment facilities

#MENTALHEALTHREFORM

S 2680, *the Mental Health Reform Act of 2016*

SHARE THE FACTS

1 IN 5



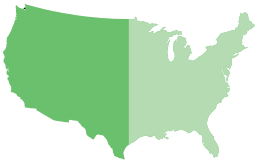
Americans are affected by mental illness in a given year.



75% of rural and frontier communities do not have any mental health professionals, affecting up to 45 million Americans.

MORE THAN 50%

of adults and children with mental health conditions received no mental health treatment in the past year.



Over **40,000** American lives are lost to suicide every year.

Suicide is the **2nd** leading cause of death among young people ages 15-24 years.

Mental health and substance use disorders caused more hospitalizations among U.S. troops in 2009 than any other cause.



Mental illness costs America **$193.2 BILLION** in lost earnings each year.



8.4 MILLION

Americans provide care to an adult living with mental illness.

3 OUT OF 4

mental health caregivers report high levels of stress.



2 MILLION

Americans with mental health conditions languish in jails each year, often as a result of their illness.

74 WEEKS (U.S)

7 WEEKS (U.K)

The average delay from the first symptoms of psychosis to treatment in the U.S. and the United Kingdom.

FACTS ABOUT S 2680:

Passing a bill could help

- combat suicide in our schools and communities;
- improve access to mental health care by increasing the number of mental health professionals;
- and hold health insurance plans accountable for covering mental health fairly.