# #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

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### SHARE THE FACTS

1 IN 5



Americans are affected by mental illness in a given year.

#### **MORE THAN 50%**

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



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

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

Suicide is the **2<sup>nd</sup>** 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.

### **WISCONSIN FACTS:**

- More than 800,000 adults live with mental illness in Wisconsin and 55% of those did not receive any services and supports last year.
- Wisconsin has a severe shortage of child and adolescent psychiatrists.
- 769 Wisconsinites died by suicide in 2014.
   Suicide is almost always the result of untreated or undertreated mental illness.