

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H2/25/25

HR 1051

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By: Representatives D. Garner, Gonzales Worthen, Vaught, McCullough, Hudson, J. Mayberry

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE EATING DISORDER ACTION WEEK AS A TIME TO
RAISE AWARENESS, PROMOTE EDUCATION, AND ENCOURAGE
EARLY INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT FOR EATING
DISORDERS.

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Subtitle

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TO RECOGNIZE EATING DISORDER ACTION WEEK
AS A TIME TO RAISE AWARENESS, PROMOTE
EDUCATION, AND ENCOURAGE EARLY
INTERVENTION AND TREATMENT FOR EATING
DISORDERS.

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WHEREAS, eating disorders affect approximately nine percent (9%) of the
population of the United States, equating to twenty-eight million, eight
hundred thousand (28,800,000) citizens; and

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WHEREAS, eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any
psychiatric illness, with one (1) person dying every fifty-two (52) minutes
as a direct consequence of an eating disorder; and

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WHEREAS, women experience eating disorders at more than two (2) times
the rate of men, with lifetime prevalence rates estimated at eight and six-
tenths percent (8.6%) for women compared to four and seven-hundredths percent
(4.07%) for men; and

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WHEREAS, individuals from marginalized communities, military personnel,
athletes, and men face unique challenges in diagnosis, treatment, and access



1 to care for eating disorders; and

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3 WHEREAS, eating disorders show significant links with other mental
4 health conditions including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress
5 disorder, and substance use disorders, with a high prevalence of suicidal
6 ideation and suicide attempts among those affected; and

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8 WHEREAS, young people, including teenagers and college students, are
9 particularly vulnerable to developing disordered eating behaviors, with risk
10 factors such as dieting, body dissatisfaction, and societal pressures
11 contributing to the rise in cases; and

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13 WHEREAS, eating disorders have a substantial economic and public health
14 impact, with Arkansas ranking thirteenth in the nation for eating disorder
15 prevalence and incurring an estimated forty-two million, four hundred
16 thousand dollars (\$42,400,000) in related healthcare costs annually; and

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18 *WHEREAS, in 2021, Arkansas hospitals recorded five hundred sixteen (516)*
19 *inpatient admissions and one hundred forty (140) emergency department visits*
20 *where an eating disorder was diagnosed, and more than four thousand five*
21 *hundred (4,500) Arkansans had nearly thirty thousand (30,000) insurance*
22 *claims related to an eating disorder diagnosis,*

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24 NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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28 THAT Eating Disorder Action Week be recognized as a time to raise
29 awareness, promote education, and encourage early intervention and treatment
30 for eating disorders.

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT medical professionals, educators, policymakers,
33 and community organizations work collaboratively to improve access to
34 treatment, reduce stigma, and provide comprehensive support for individuals
35 affected by eating disorders.

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT local, state, and national leaders take proactive
2 steps to implement policies and allocate resources that address the growing
3 prevalence of eating disorders, ensuring that all individuals, especially
4 women, who are disproportionately affected, receive the care and support they
5 need.

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/s/D. Garner

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