

1           A RESOLUTION declaring February 26 through March 4, 2018, as Eating  
2 Disorders Awareness Week in Kentucky, in conjunction with the observance of National  
3 Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

4           WHEREAS, the 2018 theme of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week is "Let's  
5 Get Real", and will focus on expanding the conversation around eating disorders to  
6 include the diverse perspectives of the millions of people affected; and

7           WHEREAS, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week is a collaborative effort  
8 consisting primarily of volunteers, including eating disorder professionals, health care  
9 providers, students, educators, social workers, and individuals committed to raising  
10 awareness of the dangers surrounding eating disorders and the need for early intervention  
11 and access to treatment; and

12           WHEREAS, The National Eating Disorder Association strives to address the many  
13 misconceptions regarding eating disorders and to highlight the availability of resources  
14 for treatment and support; and

15           WHEREAS, eating disorders are shrouded in stigma, secrecy, and stereotypes, and  
16 include anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and binge eating disorders; and

17           WHEREAS, in the United States an estimated twenty million women and ten  
18 million men suffer from clinically significant eating disorders at some time in their life;  
19 and

20           WHEREAS, eating disorders usually first appear in adolescence and are associated  
21 with substantial psychological problems, including depression, substance abuse, and  
22 suicide; and

23           WHEREAS, individuals with anorexia nervosa have the highest mortality rate of  
24 individuals with any mental illness; and

25           WHEREAS, many eating disorders go undetected and fewer than one-third of youth  
26 with eating disorders will receive treatment; and

27           WHEREAS, eating disorder experts have found that prompt intensive treatment

1 significantly improves the chances of recovery from eating disorders, and it is important  
2 for educators, medical providers, parents, and community members to be aware of the  
3 warning signs and the symptoms of eating disorders; and

4 WHEREAS, National Eating Disorder Awareness Week will encourage people to  
5 share their stories and experiences with disordered eating and body image struggles, and  
6 make all of us aware of the importance of early detection and intervention; and

7 WHEREAS, this legislative body recognizes the vital work of National Eating  
8 Disorder Awareness Week in promoting public and media attention to the seriousness of  
9 eating disorders and improving the education about the biological and environmental  
10 causes of eating disorders and the struggles associated with these debilitating diseases;

11 NOW, THEREFORE,

12 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
13 *Kentucky:*

14 ➔Section 1. The Senate declares February 26 through March 4, 2018, to be Eating  
15 Disorders Awareness Week in Kentucky.

16 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this  
17 Resolution to Governor Matthew Bevin, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100, Frankfort,  
18 Kentucky 40601; to The National Eating Disorder Association; and other eating disorder  
19 organizations in Kentucky.