

April 16, 2026

The Honorable Troy Carter
442 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Alma Adams
2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ryan Mackenzie
121 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Moylan
228 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Representative Carter, Representative Adams, Delegate Moylan, and Representative Mackenzie:

On behalf of the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG), the largest coalition of national organizations representing individuals and families experiencing mental health and substance use challenges, mental health and substance use treatment providers, advocates, and other stakeholders committed to strengthening access to high-quality care, we write in strong support of the *Raising Awareness for Youth Suicide (RAYS) Prevention Act* (H.R. 7092). This legislation would ensure that middle and high schools across the country provide contact information for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, as well as other mental health resources, on their student identification cards and websites.

Our country continues to face a youth mental health crisis – in 2023, suicide was the second leading cause of death for people ages 10-34.¹ Additionally, 40% of high school students reported feeling so sad or hopeless that they stopped participating in their usual activities for at least two weeks.²

While Congress has made strides towards addressing the youth mental health crisis, more must be done. The *RAYS Act* will help middle and high school students know who to contact when they need mental health or substance use disorder support by having vital resources on their student IDs or school websites. Making these resources commonplace and accessible to all youth will increase access to care and reduce stigma.

MHLG is proud to endorse the *RAYS Act* and applauds your bipartisan leadership in supporting the mental health of our nation's youth. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to advance and pass this legislation.

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention. 2023. WISQARS Leading Causes of Death Visualization Tool. <https://wisqars.cdc.gov/lcd/?o=LCD&y1=2023&y2=2023&ct=12&cc=ALL&g=00&s=0&r=0&ry=0&e=0&ar=lcd1age&at=groups&ag=lcd2age&a1=0&a2=199>

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data Summary & Trends Report: 2013–2023*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2024

Sincerely,

Active Minds
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Group Psychotherapy Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychoanalytic Association
American Psychological Association Services
Anxiety and Depression Association of America
Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Clinical Social Work Association
Crisis Text Line
Girls Inc.
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
Inseparable
International OCD Foundation
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance
Mental Health America
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of School Psychologists
National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)
National League for Nursing
National Register of Health Service Psychologists
Psychotherapy Action Network (PsiAN)
Sandy Hook Promise
The Kennedy Forum
The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
The Trevor Project
Trust for America's Health
Vibrant Emotional Health
Youth Villages