

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of all deaths and the 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15 to 24 in the United States and in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS,

Suicide is the 3rd leading cause of all injury deaths in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS,

In the United States, one person completes suicide every 14.2 minutes; and

WHEREAS,

It is estimated that 4.73 million people in the United States are survivors of suicide (including those who have lost a loved one to suicide); and

WHEREAS,

50.8% of people who die by suicide use a firearm, and guns stored in the house are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-protection; and

WHEREAS,

The suicide rate for those 15-24 years old has more than doubled since the mid-1950's, and the suicide rate remains highest for adults 75 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS,

Every 65 minutes, a military veteran completes suicide, and in 2012, almost one suicide per day took the life of active duty personnel, meaning now there are more suicides among active duty soldiers than there are combat deaths; and

WHEREAS,

The stigma associated with mental illness and being suicidal works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide; and

WHEREAS,

Suicide prevention efforts are encouraged to be developed across the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS,

Organizations such as the Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition and the American Association of Suicidology are dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths and the pain of survivors affected by suicides of loved ones through educational programs, research projects, intervention services and bereavement services; and

WHEREAS,

A great many suicides are preventable.

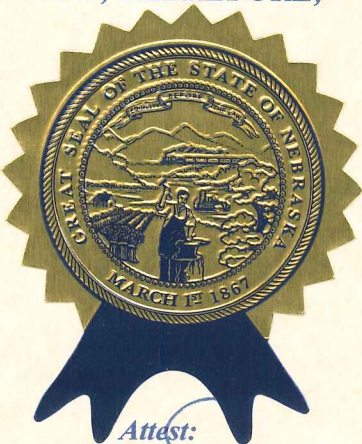
NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Dave Heineman, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the month of September 2013 as

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen.



Attest:

John A. Gale
Secretary of State

Dave Heineman
Governor