



Tim Murphy

U.S. Congressman for the 18th District of Pennsylvania

The Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act

Those with serious mental illness (SMI) do recover and can lead fulfilling lives, but an astounding forty percent of the ten million Americans with SMI are not in treatment. And, even when care is delivered, it often delayed for more than two years after the illness first appears.

An investigation into the nation's broken mental health system by Congressman Tim Murphy, Chairman of the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, revealed that those who need help the most, have been getting it the least. Federal and state laws prevent well-meaning family members from taking a more active role in their loved one's care. The current system only responds after a serious crisis, not before or during, and forces families to make an awful decision to allow a loved one's illness to worsen so they may become eligible for life-saving care.

Dr. Murphy introduced the **Helping Families In Mental Health Crisis Act (H.R. 3717)** to refocus programs and resources on the needs of families and patients with the most challenging cases of serious mental illnesses. Called the most significant overhaul of the nation's broken mental health system since the Kennedy Administration, the bill:

Empowers Parents and Caregivers

Breaks down barriers to allow families to work with doctors and mental health professionals to be part of the front-line care delivery team

Reaching Underserved and Rural Populations

Advances tele-psychiatry to link pediatricians and primary care doctors with psychiatrists and psychologists in areas where patients don't have access to mental health professionals.

Alternatives to Institutionalization

Helps those with serious mental illness get into treatment when they are unable to understand the gravity of their condition and cannot voluntarily seek out care, thereby reducing rates of imprisonment, homelessness, substance abuse, and costly ER visits.

Criminal Justice Reforms

Expands Crisis Intervention Team training for law enforcement, and reauthorizes mental health courts so patients are treated in the healthcare system and not warehoused in the criminal justice system.

Integrates Primary & Behavioral Care

Extends health IT so mental health providers can coordinate care with primary care doctors using electronic medical records.

Reforms Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

For the first time, brings accountability to how mental health dollars are spent. Requires grant recipients to follow evidence-based standards, eliminates unauthorized programs, and mandates congressional oversight of all federal behavioral health grants. Prohibits taxpayer dollars from going to legal advocates and antipsychiatry activists working to stop medical care.

Fixes Shortage of Inpatient Beds

Provides more psychiatric hospital beds for those experiencing a mental health crisis and in need of immediate inpatient care.

Driving Evidence-Based Care

Creates Assistant Secretary for Mental Health (HHS) to elevate the importance of mental health in the federal government, coordinates programs across different agencies, and promotes effective evidence based programs.

Advances Critical Medical Research

Increases funding for brain research to better understand the underlying causes of neurological and psychiatric conditions. Advances successful NIMH early intervention programs like Recovery After Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE), which reduces suicide rates and helps patients recover through a combination of low-dose medication and support services.

High Quality Behavioral Health Clinics

Improves quality and expands access to integrated medical and mental healthcare at community mental health providers.

Increases Physician Volunteerism

Ends the decades-old prohibition on physicians volunteering at community mental health clinics and federally-qualified health centers.

Organizations & Media Outlets Supporting the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act

Organizations

American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
 American Academy of Emergency Medicine
 American Academy of Forensic Sciences
 American College of Emergency Physicians
 American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc.
 American Psychiatric Association
 American Psychological Association
 California Psychiatric Association
 Center for Substance Abuse Research
 College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists
 Developmental Disabilities Area Board 10 LA
 Mental Health Association of Essex County, NJ
 Mental Illness FACTS
 Mental Illness Policy Organization
 Nat. Assoc. for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis
 Nat. Assoc. of Psychiatric Health Systems
 National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
 NAMI Kentucky
 NAMI Los Angeles County
 NAMI New York State
 NAMI Ohio
 NAMI San Francisco

NAMI West Side Los Angeles
 Nat. Council for Behavioral Health
 National Sheriffs' Association
 No Health Without Mental Health
 Pennsylvania Medical Society
 St. Paulus Lutheran Church (San Francisco)
 Sheppard Pratt Hospital
 Treatment Advocacy Center
 Treatment Before Tragedy
 U. of Pittsburgh, Department of Psychiatry
 Washington Psychiatric Society
 NY State Assoc. of Chiefs of Police

The Toledo Blade
 Houston Chronicle
 Raleigh News & Observer
 Bradenton Herald
 The Cecil Whig (MD)
 Express-Times (Lehigh Valley, PA)
 Fresno Bee
 Mansfield News Journal
 Ocala Star-Banner (FL)
 San Mateo Journal (CA)
 Sarasota Herald-Tribune
 Seattle Times
 Washington Observer-Reporter (PA)
 Tampa Tribune

Media

The Wall Street Journal
 The Washington Post
 National Review
 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
 The Sacramento Bee
 The Arizona Republic
 The Orange County Register

Congressional Cosponsors of H.R. 3717

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Amodei, Mark (R-NV) | 31. Ellison, Keith (D-MN) | 61. McKinley, David B. (R-WV) | 91. Turner, Michael R. (R-OH) |
| 2. Bachus, Spencer (R-AL) | 32. Ellmers, Renee (R-NC) | 62. Meehan, Patrick (R-PA) | 92. Vargas, Juan (D-CA) |
| 3. Barr, Andy (R-KY) | 33. Fitzpatrick, Michael (R-PA) | 63. Michaud, Michael H. (D-ME) | 93. Walorski, Jackie (R-IN) |
| 4. Bass, Karen (D-CA) | 34. Fortenberry, Jeff (R-NE) | 64. Miller, Candice S. (R-MI) | 94. Webster, Daniel (R-FL) |
| 5. Benishek, Dan (R-MI) | 35. Gabbard, Tulsi (D-HI) | 65. Mullin, Markwayne (R-OK) | 95. Wenstrup, Brad R. (R-OH) |
| 6. Bera, Ami (D-CA) | 36. Gerlach, Jim (R-PA) | 66. Negrete McLeod (D-CA) | 96. Whitfield, Ed (R-KY) |
| 7. Bilirakis, Gus M. (R-FL) | 37. Gibson, Christopher (R-NY) | 67. Norton, Eleanor (D-DC) | 97. Wilson, Joe (R-SC) |
| 8. Bishop, Sanford (D-GA) | 38. Griffin, Tim (R-AR) | 68. Nunes, Devin (R-CA) | 98. Holt, Rush (D-NJ) |
| 9. Black, Diane (R-TN) | 39. Grimm, Michael (R-NY) | 69. Olson, Pete (R-TX) | 99. Byrne, Bradley (R-AL) |
| 10. Blackburn, Marsha (R-TN) | 40. Hartzler, Vicky (R-MO) | 70. Paulsen, Erik (R-MN) | 100. Herrera Beutler (R-WA) |
| 11. Blumener, Earl (D-OR) | 41. Hastings, Alcee (D-FL) | 71. Pierluisi, Pedro R. (D-PR) | 101. Barletta, Lou (R-PA) |
| 12. Boustany, Charles (R-LA) | 42. Hunter, Duncan (R-CA) | 72. Rangel, Charles B. (D-NY) | 102. Pittenger, Robert (R-NC) |
| 13. Brooks, Susan (R-IN) | 43. Israel, Steve (D-NY) | 73. Reed, Tom (R-NY) | 103. Gingrey, Phil (R-GA) |
| 14. Brown, Corrine (D-FL) | 44. Jackson Lee, Sheila (D-TX) | 74. Richmond, Cedric L. (D-LA) | 104. Simpson, Michael (R-ID) |
| 15. Brownley, Julia (D-CA) | 45. Jeffries, Hakeem S. (D-NY) | 75. Roe, David P. (R-TN) | 105. Marino, Tom (R-PA) |
| 16. Buchanan, Vern (R-FL) | 46. Johnson, Bill (R-OH) | 76. Roskam, Peter J. (R-IL) | 106. Guthrie, Brett (R-KY) |
| 17. Calvert, Ken (R-CA) | 47. Johnson, Eddie (D-TX) | 77. Rothfus, Keith J. (R-PA) | 107. Mica, John (R-FL) |
| 18. Capito, Shelley (R-WV) | 48. Kaptur, Marcy (D-OH) | 78. Rush, Bobby L. (D-IL) | 108. Deutch, Theodore (D-FL) |
| 19. Carson, Andre (D-IN) | 49. Kelly, Mike (R-PA) | 79. Salmon, Matt (R-AZ) | 109. Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana (R-FL) |
| 20. Carter, John R. (R-TX) | 50. King, Peter T. (R-NY) | 80. Schock, Aaron (R-IL) | 110. Jones, Walter (R-NC) |
| 21. Cassidy, Bill (R-LA) | 51. Kinzinger, Adam (R-IL) | 81. Schweikert, David (R-AZ) | 111. Crenshaw, Ander (R-FL) |
| 22. Coffman, Mike (R-CO) | 52. Kirkpatrick, Ann (D-AZ) | 82. Scott, David (D-GA) | 112. Hanna, Richard (R-NY) |
| 23. Cole, Tom (R-OK) | 53. LaMalfa, Doug (R-CA) | 83. Sewell, Terri A. (D-AL) | 113. Cicilline, David (D-RI) |
| 24. Collins, Chris (R-NY) | 54. Lance, Leonard (R-NJ) | 84. Shuster, Bill (R-PA) | 114. Walz, Timothy (D-MN) |
| 25. Crawford, Rick (R-AR) | 55. Loeb sack, David (D-IA) | 85. Sinema, Kyrsten (D-AZ) | 115. Rooney, Thomas (R-FL) |
| 26. Denham, Jeff (R-CA) | 56. Long, Billy (R-MO) | 86. Smith, Christopher H. (R-NJ) | |
| 27. Dent, Charles (R-PA) | 57. Lowenthal, Alan S. (D-CA) | 87. Stivers, Steve (R-OH) | |
| 28. Diaz-Balart, Mario (R-FL) | 58. McCarthy, Carolyn (D-NY) | 88. Terry, Lee (R-NE) | |
| 29. Doyle, Michael (D-PA) | 59. McCollum, Betty (D-MN) | 89. Thompson, Bennie (D-MS) | |
| 30. Duncan, John (R-TN) | 60. McDermott, Jim (D-WA) | 90. Thompson, Glenn (R-PA) | |