

November 28, 2023

The Honorable Steve Demetriou
The Honorable Susan Manchester

RE: Letter of Support Ohio House Bill 248 Suicide Prevention License Plate.

From Marlene LeSuer, Madison, Oh

Dear Representatives Demetriou and Manchester,

I am writing to strongly support the passage HB 248 which will allow for the creation of a suicide prevention license plate. The funds from this specialty plate will benefit the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation.

The citizen who helped to launch this initiative is my sister-in-law Debra Repko McClintock to honor the memory of her son Logan. Debra lost both her husband, Pete Repko (my brother) and her son Logan Repko (my nephew) to suicide in 2012. To say that these tragedies changed our family would be an understatement. We have been gutted. Every photograph of our many happy family gatherings now represents either a bittersweet "before" or a bittersweet "after." Every "after" picture always show a glaring empty spot where my brother and nephew once were. If only they could have known how incredibly important they were to our family and how much we miss then. Logan was an incredibly intelligent young man almost done with his college degree who had much to contribute to this world. But he decided at the age of 24—possibly in response to his father's passing five months earlier—to end his life. Having a license plate that draws attention to suicide and the 988 suicide hot line and funds Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation can potentially help other families from suffering this loss.

Thank you for taking up this cause and presenting HB 248 to committee. I urge all voting parties to pass this important measure.

Thank you,

Marlene LeSuer



6887 Shelly Dr.
Madison, OH 44057