

April 22, 2024

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the thousands of Concerned Veterans for America activists across Ohio, I urge you to support Senate Bill 225, the designation of "Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day" in our state.

As we strive to support our veterans in every aspect of their lives, it's crucial to raise awareness about the challenges they face, including mental health struggles and the tragically high rate of suicide among veterans. At Concerned Veterans for America, we are working hard to ensure our veterans have access to timely and quality care to treat the silent struggles of mental health issues. Too often, our heroes are left navigating a broken and bureaucratic VA system of red tape and barriers to treatment.

We believe policies like the ones within the VA Mission Act, expand veterans' health care options – especially mental health. We believe "full choice" legislation can pave the way for veterans to reclaim control over their well-being. No longer should our veterans be at the mercy of administrative whims; instead, they should have the freedom to seek the care that resonates with them, to embark on a journey towards restoration and renewal.

By officially recognizing Veterans Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day, we can send a powerful message of support to our veteran community and emphasize the importance of mental health resources and suicide prevention efforts. Ultimately, CVA will continue to advocate for ideas that promote veteran empowerment relative to control over their health care.

Please stand with us in honoring our veterans and taking proactive steps to address the mental health crisis they often confront. Your support for this initiative will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our veterans and their families.

Sincerely, Adam Miller Grassroots Engagement Director | Concerned Veterans for America – Ohio www.cv4a.org