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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, mental health is a cornerstone to overall health and well-being, and

WHEREAS, nearly a quarter of the population has been diagnosed with a mental health disorder, and

WHEREAS, May has been recognized nationally as Mental Health Awareness Month dating back to 1949 as a way to raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness, and

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month provides an opportunity for those experiencing mental illness to see in this tangible way that their community supports them in their recovery, so no one feels alone in their struggles, and

WHEREAS, wholeheartedly acknowledging that people are able to recover, living full and productive lives with appropriate treatment and support, and

WHEREAS, recognizing the vital role mental health workers play in providing mental health services, and the increased importance of this role amid a nationwide workforce shortage, and

WHEREAS, we call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Tompkins County to recommit ourselves to increasing awareness of the importance mental health plays in all of our lives, supporting those in need of treatment by offering appropriate and stigma free services, while celebrating the contributions of those in the mental health workforce who make a difference in our lives, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Legislature does hereby proclaim the month of May 2024, as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in Tompkins County,

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Dan Klein, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of Tompkins County, State of New York, on this 7th day of May 2024.

Dan Klein, Chair Tompkins County Legislature