



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**

June 25, 2020

The Honorable Susan Wild
U.S. Representative (PA-07)
1607 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Wild,

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the nation's largest organization dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, supports your efforts to care for survivors of suicide loss. **We proudly endorse the *Greater Mental Health Access Act (H.R.4428)* to provide services and support to friends and family members impacted by an individual's suicide.**

Suicide is a major public health crisis in the United States. Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for individuals aged 10-34, the 4th leading cause of death for individuals aged 35-54, and the 10th leading cause of death overall. Nearly half of all Americans have been impacted by suicide. More work must be done to change these tragic statistics, and we believe that the *Greater Mental Health Access Act (H.R.4428)* will enact much needed policies to address this major public health issue.

By establishing a special enrollment period for survivors of suicide loss, individuals who have lost loved ones to suicide, this legislation will support those impacted by this leading cause of death.

Thank you for your leadership and for prioritizing the needs of the millions of Americans impacted by suicide. **We urge your colleagues in Congress to swiftly pass this important legislation into law.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Madigan".

John H. Madigan

Senior Vice President and

Chief Public Policy Officer

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention