



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Don Beyer
U.S. Representative (VA-08)
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Beyer,

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 prevent suicide. **We proudly endorse the *Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act (H.R.4585)* to conduct a national suicide prevention media campaign.**

Suicide is a major public health crisis in the United States that is too often under addressed. Despite over 10 million Americans seriously considering suicide many people do not know what resources exist or how to encourage help seeking. More work must be done to change public perceptions regarding suicide prevention, and we believe that the *Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act (H.R.4585)* will provide much needed information to raise public awareness.

By educating the public on available resources, educating communities on how to address suicide and suicidal thoughts, and by elevating these issues in the public discourse this legislation can save lives.

Thank you for your leadership and for prioritizing to create a culture that is vocal about preventing 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