



The Community Mental Wellness & Resilience Act

Cosponsors: Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and Kathy Castor (D-FL)

117th Congress

Supporting Organization Statements:

“The Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act is an urgently needed new policy. We sincerely thank Representatives Tonko and Fitzpatrick for seeing the need and taking the initiative to begin to expand the way our nation addresses mental health and psychosocial problems by introducing legislation that will support community-based initiatives that use a public health approach to build the capacity of all residents for mental wellness and resilience all types of adversities.”

❖ **Bob Doppelt, Coordinator of the International Transformational Resilience Coalition (ITRC)**

“The National Association of Social Workers sends our sincerest thanks to Representatives Tonko and Fitzpatrick for introducing the Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act. Social workers are on the front line helping individuals and families that experience the accelerating stresses and traumas generated by climate change and other adversities. We know that building robust social connections and forming mutual support networks in neighborhoods and communities are key to preventing and healing the mental health problems that can result from these difficulties. For this reason, the NASW strongly supports this legislation because it will fund community-based efforts to build psychological and emotional resilience.”

❖ **Angelo McClain, PhD, LICSW, CEO of the National Association of Social Workers**

“The American Psychiatric Association strongly supports the Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act and commends Representatives Tonko, Fitzpatrick, and Castor for their leadership in introducing it. This forward-thinking proposal would authorize grants focused on strategies to enhance the ability of communities to confront the mental health impacts of acute and long-term disruptions from natural disasters, as well as other public health impacts of climate change. APA strongly supports this effort to foster resilience and mental wellness in communities across the nation.”

❖ **APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A.**

“Social workers are on the front lines as a convergence of social, economic, public health and environmental crisis impact the mental health of our nation like never before – with people who are black, brown, low-income and in vulnerable communities experiencing the greatest burdens on their mental wellbeing. It is therefore vitally important to enact policies that address and support resilience in individuals, families, and communities, and I applaud Representatives Tonko and Fitzpatrick for taking action with the Community Mental Wellness and Resilience Act.”

❖ **Michael A. Lindsey, PhD, MSW, MPH, Dean and Professor at NYU’s Silver School of Social Work**

“America’s current approach to disasters is too reactionary, providing support after a traumatic event. This legislation will build community partnerships to help them prepare for disaster. Strong communities heal faster and reduce the mental health consequences that can ripple through the community. We thank Congressman Tonko for his leadership.”

❖ **Jesse Kohler, Executive Director of the Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice (CTIPP)**

Supporting Organizations

ABCD Therapy & Consulting LLC; Able-Differently; Alliance for Positive Health; The Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments; Aloka Vihara Forest Monastery; American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare; American Association on Health and Disability; American Lung Association; American Psychiatric Association; American Psychological Association; American Public Health Association; Anxiety and Depression Association of America; BasicNeeds US; Beaver Hollow; The Blueford Group; Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice; Children's Environmental Health Network; Children's Home Society of America; Children's Mental Health Network; Climate Action Net; Climate Health Now; Climate Mental Health Network; Climate Psychiatry Alliance; Climate Psychology Alliance of North America; Climate Resilience Fund; Clinical Social Work Association; Collective Resilience; Columbia Resilience; Community Resilience Initiative; Dr. Jennifer Gordon, Ph.D., P.C.; ecoAmerica; EcoInfluencer Academy; Factor 10 Inc.; Familias en Acción; Finger Lakes Community Schools; Glenn County Office of Education; Good Grief Network; GreenFaith; Health Care Without Harm; Holistic Healing & Resilience; Insight Medical Group LLC; International OCD Foundation; International Transformational Resilience Coalition; The Jed Foundation; KLBRI; The Kennedy Forum; Lakeshore Foundation; Medley Meadows Musical Farm; Mental Health America; Metta Foundation and Insight Dialogue Community; Michigan Clinicians for Climate Action; National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI); National Association for Children's Behavioral Health; National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors; National Council for Mental Wellbeing; National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives; The National Association of Social Workers (NASW); NEATLabs; Neighborhood Resilience Project; New Jersey Education Association; New Leaf Counseling, LLC; New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO); NH Healthcare Workers for Climate Action; Oluremi's Longhouse; One Shared Spirit Recovery Community; One Shared Spirit Recovery Community; Oregon Metro; Organic Intelligence; Our Climate Education Fund; Peace4Tarpon; Physicians Against Red Meat (PhARM); Physicians for Social Responsibility Maine; Post Carbon Institute; Prevention Institute; Pride Center of the Capital Region; Reaching Resiliency; Resilience Climbing; Resiliency 2023; Resilient Communities Utah; The Resilience Group; The Resiliency Initiative; The Resilient Activist; Root Down Psychotherapy; Rural Health Network of SCNY; Rural Opportunity Institute; Sabater Laboratory for Psychological Innovations Inc (SabaterLAB); SabaterLAB Foundation; SAF-TESO; Seneca County Community Schools; SF Physicians for Social Responsibility; Start Early; Susanne Moser Research & Consulting & The Adaptive Mind Project; The Summit Counseling Center; The Trauma Resource Institute; Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility; Thinkwell, LLC.; Trauma & Resilience Initiative Inc.; Trauma Informed Oregon; True Nature Counseling; UCLA Mindful Awareness Research Center; United Steelworkers Local Union 3657; United Way of the Columbia Willamette; Vermont Climate & Health Alliance; Visible Hands Collaborative; Whatcom Family & Community Network; Yale Center on Climate Change and Health; 18th Street Arts Center; 350 Eugene