

SENATE RESOLUTION 29

(By Senators Deeds, Grady, and Morris)

[Introduced February 5, 2026]

1 Designating February 6, 2026, as Recovery Advocacy Day at the Legislature.

2 Whereas, An epidemic of substance use disorder, other addictions, and related, co-
3 occurring disorders, continues to take an enormous toll on West Virginians in communities across
4 the State; and

5 Whereas, Too many families have lost their children, siblings, parents, and friends to
6 substance misuse and overdose; and

7 Whereas, Each loss serves as a painful call to action; and

8 Whereas, Some areas of the state, especially many rural communities, continue to lack
9 access to the full disposal of services provided in the Continuum of Care; and

10 Whereas, With adequate support and resources, attaining and sustaining recovery is
11 possible, and makes the state stronger, when every individual is provided the opportunity to live a
12 long, successful, and healthy life; and

13 Whereas, Dedicated service providers practice in communities across the state and
14 possess the requisite professional training and necessary life experiences to help prevent
15 addiction and to work closely with those individuals suffering from it; and

16 Whereas, Locating safe, supportive, reliable housing, which is crucial for many individuals
17 in early recovery to obtain long-term employment and become productive members of society,
18 remains a challenge; and

19 Whereas, Limitations on available resources presents a greater barrier, but a more
20 substantial need, for individuals currently incarcerated (especially the high percentage with co-

1 occurring disorders); and

2 Whereas, Thousands of individual West Virginians working with the dedicated workforce of
3 trained, certified mental health professionals including counselors, therapists, peers, and other
4 professionals have achieved and remain in recovery from their addiction or disorder; and

5 Whereas, This trained workforce provides services through multiple organizations,
6 supporting the multiple pathways to recovery that are available to support individuals and their
7 families at every step of their recovery journey; therefore, be it

8 *Resolved by the Senate:*

9 That the Senate hereby designates February 6, 2026, as Recovery Advocacy Day at the
10 Legislature; and, be it

11 *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
12 the West Virginia Association of Addiction and Prevention Professionals, the West Virginia
13 Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, the West Virginia Alliance of Recovery
14 Residences, the West Virginia Behavioral Healthcare Providers Association, and the West Virginia
15 Certification Board for Addiction and Prevention Professionals.