RESOLUTION NO. <u>17-81</u>

A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA DESIGNATING JANUARY 12, 2018 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY IN THE CITY OF PENSACOLA.

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that mental health awareness and mental health services are vital components to those challenged with mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, college students, given the stress and rigors of the educational process are not immune from mental health challenges; and

WHEREAS, studies show that over 1000 suicides are committed on college campuses every year; and

WHEREAS, a recent National College Health Assessment showed that 17% of college students were diagnosed with anxiety; and 13.9% were diagnosed with depression and 86% reported feeling overwhelmed by the expectations of colleges; and

WHEREAS, there is a perceived negative stigma to those diagnosed with depression as well as a fear of social repercussions for those seeking mental health support; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports the University of West Florida and all 12 of the FSA universities in their desire to reduce the impact of mental health challenges while increasing the mental health awareness and mental health services to those impacted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That the Pensacola City Council designates January 12, 2018 as Mental Health Awareness Day within the City of Pensacola.

SECTION 2. That the City Council urges the State Legislature to adequately fund mental health services for students in post-secondary education.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall become effective on the fifth business day after adoption, unless otherwise provided pursuant to Section 4.03(d) of the City Charter of the City of Pensacola.

Adopted: _____

Approved: _____ President of City Council

Attest:

City Clerk