

## New Survey: Americans See Urgent Need for Action on Mental Health Care

Large swath of voters support expanded coverage

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – National survey results released today by Centerline Liberties found strong bipartisan support for expanded access and federal funding for mental health care.

"Over the years Centerline has polled issues of importance to the American people from mental health to clean energy and election reform. This latest national survey sends a clear message that Americans are demanding more from their elected officials and insurance companies on access to mental health care. Leaders should take note and prioritize taking immediate action on an issue that Americans across all demographics see urgent need for reforms," said **James Dozier**, President of Centerline Liberties.

"The survey results speak volumes – many voters believe both lawmakers and insurers should be doing more to expand access to mental health care. Support for mental health coverage is robust – including incredible support from voters of all ages and demographics. Simply put, Americans care about mental health and this data reflects their widespread support for government action," said **Alex Lundry**, a GOP pollster and founder of Redbud Consulting.

"This poll makes it stunningly clear – no matter their background, geography, or political leanings, Americans agree better access to mental health care is a top priority," said **Bill Smith**, Founder and CEO of Inseparable. "They want government action. That means not letting insurance companies continue their practice of delaying, denying, and cutting short the life-changing care we need and instead, keeping those decisions between doctors and patients where they belong."

Notable survey results on support for expanded mental health care:

A majority of voters want more from the government on mental health.

• 59% of registered voters believe the government should be doing more to expand access to mental health care.

There is near universal support for mental health insurance requirements.

- 90% support requiring insurers to cover needed mental health care when prescribed by a patient's doctor, including 65% of voters who strongly support this.
- 93% of voters over the age of 55 support requiring insurers to cover prescribed mental healthcare.
- 80% of undecideds on the presidential ballot and 78% of undecideds on the generic congressional ballots support requiring insurers to cover prescribed mental health treatments.

Americans want less bureaucratic government involvement in their mental health care decisions.

- 92% agree that "Insurance companies need to stop getting in-between patients, their doctors, and their healthcare, including mental healthcare. If a doctor prescribes a patient mental health services, insurance company bureaucrats should not be able to deny coverage for it."
  - Both Democrats (94%) and Republicans (89%) overwhelmingly support this statement.

Many voters have personal experience with difficulties related to mental health coverage.

• Nearly 4 out of 10 (38%) registered voters know someone who has been affected by an insurer making it difficult to access mental health care, with nearly 1 in 4 (22%) saying it was "extremely or very difficult."

Click <u>here</u> to read the memo detailing the full findings of survey data on mental health.

## Methodology

The survey was fielded September 12-16, 2024 via mixed mode methodology cell phones, landlines, online and text-to-web) by Redbud Consulting among 800 registered voters. The margin of error is +/- 3%.

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Centerline Liberties is a nonprofit focused on advancing policy solutions capable of defending core constitutional liberties, preserving a free market economy, and limiting the role of government in Americans' everyday lives.