



HR0756

LRB100 17351 MST 32515 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, All citizens of the United States possess the
3 basic human right to the preservation of personal dignity; and

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WHEREAS, All citizens of the United States deserve the
5 investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting
6 physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

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WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) was first
8 defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to more
9 accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured severe
10 operational combat stress; and

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WHEREAS, Combat stress injuries have historically been
12 unjustly portrayed as a mental illness caused by a preexisting
13 flaw of character or ability, and that the word "disorder"
14 carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception which can
15 discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical
16 treatment; and

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WHEREAS, Referring to the complications from combat
18 operational stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and
19 bias against mental illness; and

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WHEREAS, It has been shown though electro-magnetic imaging

1 that the condition is more accurately described as an injury;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Severe post-traumatic stress is a very common, and
4 treatable, injury to the brain which can occur following
5 exposure to extremely traumatic events such as, but not
6 exclusive to interpersonal violence, combat, life-threatening
7 accidents, or natural disasters; and

8 WHEREAS, Referring to the condition as post-traumatic
9 stress injury (PTSI) is less stigmatizing and viewed as more
10 honorable, and this designation can favorably influence those
11 affected and encourage them to seek treatment without fear of
12 retribution or shame; and

13 WHEREAS, All citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress
14 injury deserve our compassion and consideration, those brave
15 men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have
16 received these wounds in action against an enemy of the United
17 States further deserve our special tribute and
18 acknowledgement; and

19 WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) is an injury
20 that is repairable, and that timely treatment can diminish
21 complications and prevent suicides among the injured;
22 therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
3 declare June 27, 2018 as "Illinois Post-Traumatic Stress Injury
4 Awareness Day"; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we declare June of 2018 as "Illinois
6 Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month"; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That we urge the Department of Public Health and
9 the Department of Veterans' Affairs to continue working to
10 educate victims of abuse, crime, and natural disasters, and
11 service members, veterans and their families, and the general
12 public, about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of
13 post-traumatic stress injury; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
15 delivered to the Governor, the Director of Public Health, and
16 the Director of Veterans' Affairs.