



HR0136

LRB102 16948 MST 22365 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

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

3

4

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

5

6

7

WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress can result from any number of stressors, including combat, interpersonal violence, severe impact collisions, natural disaster, and exposure to the suffering of others; and

8

9

10

11

WHEREAS, The diagnosis known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) was initially formulated in 1980 by the American Psychiatric Association to commonly describe and categorize the psychological aftermath of severe traumatic distress; and

12

13

14

15

16

WHEREAS, Post-traumatic distress has historically been unjustly portrayed as a mental illness caused by a preexisting flaw of character or ability, and association with the word "disorder" generates a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

17

18

19

20

1           WHEREAS, It has been shown through electro-magnetic imaging  
2 that severe post-traumatic stress causes physical changes  
3 within the brain that are more accurately described as an  
4 injury rather than a disorder; and

5           WHEREAS, Referring to post-traumatic stress as a disorder  
6 can disparage the injured and discourage them from seeking  
7 timely care for their behavioral health needs; and

8           WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress injury exhibiting  
9 compliance with criteria B through H of §309.81 in the  
10 Diagnostic Statistical Manual deserves equal compensation  
11 strictly matching that presently allowed under the law for  
12 post-traumatic stress disorder; and

13           WHEREAS, All citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress  
14 injury deserve our compassion and consideration; the brave men  
15 and women who received these wounds while risking their lives  
16 to protect our freedom, health, and welfare deserve special  
17 recognition for their gallantry, commitment, devotion, and  
18 sacrifice; and

19           WHEREAS, Timely access to appropriate treatment of  
20 post-traumatic stress injury can diminish complications and  
21 prevent suicide; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we declare June 27, 2021 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury  
4 Awareness Day in the State of Illinois; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That we declare June 2021 as Post-Traumatic  
6 Stress Injury Awareness Month; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That we urge the Departments of Public Health,  
8 Military Affairs, and Veterans Affairs to continue working to  
9 educate victims of interpersonal violence, combat,  
10 life-threatening accidents, or natural disasters and their  
11 families, as well as the general public, about the causes,  
12 symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress injury; and  
13 be it further

14           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 delivered to the Governor, and we encourage all citizens and  
16 residents to join in this worthy observance.