



HR0829

LRB101 21088 ECR 71490 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

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

4

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

7

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

11

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 the word "disorder" has
14 carried a stigma that perpetuates this misconception, which can
15 discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical
16 treatment; and

17

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

20

WHEREAS, It has been shown through 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 that can occur following exposure
5 to extremely traumatic events, such as interpersonal violence,
6 combat, life-threatening accidents, or natural disasters; and

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

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

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

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we declare June 27, 2020 as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury
4 Awareness Day" in the State of Illinois; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we declare June of 2020 as "Post-Traumatic
6 Stress Injury Awareness Month" in the State of Illinois; and be
7 it 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.