



HR1161

LRB099 21422 MST 47411 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives to protect our freedom deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

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

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WHEREAS, The diagnosis now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), was first defined to commonly and more accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured severe traumatic combat stress; and

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WHEREAS, Combat operational stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused by a preexisting flaw of character and/or ability; the term Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

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WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress can occur after experiencing a severely traumatic event to include sexual assault, child abuse, high-impact collisions and crashes, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and military combat; and

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1 WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress is a very common injury to
2 the brain that is treatable and repairable; and

3 WHEREAS, Referring to the complications from
4 post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of
5 and bias against mental illness; the stigma discourages those
6 suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper and
7 timely medical treatment; and

8 WHEREAS, Making the condition less stigmatizing and more
9 honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage
10 them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame; and

11 WHEREAS, Proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide
12 rates; and

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

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
20 designate June 27, 2016 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury

1 Awareness Day in the State of Illinois; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we designate June of 2016 as Post-Traumatic
3 Stress Injury Awareness Month in the State of Illinois; and be
4 it further

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

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 delivered to Governor Rauner.