



SPONSOR: Rep. Jaques on behalf of all Representatives & Sen. Ennis
on behalf of all Senators

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 46

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE AS "POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS MONTH" AND
PROCLAIMING JUNE 27, 2017, AS "POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE
OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States possess the basic human right to the preservation of personal dignity;
2 and

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

5 WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve the United States
6 risk their lives to protect our freedom; and

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

10 WHEREAS, combat stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of
11 character or ability and the word "disorder" carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

12 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and
13 bias against mental illness, and this stigma can discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI) can occur after experiencing a severely traumatic event,
16 including: sexual assault, child abuse, high-impact collisions and crashes, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and military
17 combat; and

18 WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI) is a very common injury to the brain that is treatable and
19 repairable; and

20 WHEREAS, making Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI) less stigmatizing and more honorable can favorably
21 influence those affected and encourage them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame; and

22 WHEREAS, proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide rates; and

23 WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve our compassion and consideration,
24 those who have received these wounds in action against an enemy of the United States further deserve our tribute and
25 acknowledgement; and

26 WHEREAS, the establishment of a Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day and Month in the State of
27 Delaware will raise public awareness about issues related to PTSI.

28 NOW, THEREFORE:

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
30 Senate concurring therein, that the month of June is proclaimed as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month".

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that June 27, 2017, is proclaimed as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness
32 Day".

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we respectfully urge our Departments of Public Health, Veterans Affairs, and
34 the Delaware National Guard to continue working to educate victims of abuse, crime and natural disaster, service members,
35 veterans and their families, as well as the general public, about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of PTSI.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of
37 Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution designates the month of June as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month" and June 27, 2017, as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" in order to bring awareness to those who suffer from post-traumatic stress and to help remove the stigma associated with it.