

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. 93

RECOGNIZING JUNE 27, 2018 AS "DELAWARE POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY" AND JUNE AS "DELAWARE POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS MONTH."

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 diagnosis now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) was first defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to commonly and more accurately understand and treat veterans who had 6 7 endured severe operational combat stress; and WHEREAS, combat stress injury has historically been unjustly portrayed as a mental illness caused by a pre-8 9 existing flaw of character and/or ability and the word "disorder" carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and 10 WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) can occur following exposure to extremely traumatic events such 11 as, but not exclusive to: interpersonal violence, combat, life-threatening accidents or natural disasters; and 12 WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) is a very common injury to the brain that is treatable and repairable; and 13 14 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from combat operational stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of 15 and bias against mental illness, and this stigma can discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical 16 treatment; and 17 WHEREAS, making post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) less stigmatizing and more honorable can favorably 18 influence those affected and encourage them to seek treatment without fear of retribution or shame; and 19 WHEREAS, proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide rates among the injured; and 20 WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve our compassion and consideration, 21 those brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who have received these wounds in action against an 22 enemy of the United States further deserve our special tribute and acknowledgement. 23 NOW, THEREFORE:

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- 24 BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
- 25 Senate concurring therein that June 27, 2018 is "Delaware Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" and June is
- 26 "Delaware Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month."

SYNOPSIS

This House Concurrent Resolution designates June 27, 2018 "Delaware Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" and June is "Delaware Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month."

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