



SPONSOR: Sen. Ennis & Sen. Hansen & Sen. Townsend &
Sen. Lawson & Rep. Bentz & Rep. Brady & Rep. Jaques
& Rep. Mitchell

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

RECOGNIZING THE EFFICACY OF THE VETERANS RESPONSE TEAM AND THE NEED TO CONDUCT A
STATEWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs defines post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a mental
2 health problem that is developed after experiencing or witnessing a life-threatening event, such as combat, a natural
3 disaster, a car accident, or sexual assault; and

4 WHEREAS, nearly 20 out of every 100 veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation
5 Enduring Freedom (OEF), and nearly 12 out of every 100 veterans who served in the Gulf War, and nearly 15 out of every
6 100 Vietnam War Veterans suffer from PTSD; and

7 WHEREAS, the New Castle County Police Department has demonstrated leadership in developing the Veterans
8 Response Team; and

9 WHEREAS, the Veterans Response Team is a special unit that compliments the Crisis Intervention Unit and
10 provides frontline and trauma response for veterans who are experiencing crisis; and

11 WHEREAS, the Veterans Response Team receives special training in de-escalation techniques, mental health first
12 aid, and other critical life-saving skills that provide support to those individuals the Team encounters who are in need of
13 assistance; and

14 WHEREAS, the Behavioral Health Consortium in their first report detailed and identified the veteran community
15 as a priority area; and

16 WHEREAS, the Behavioral Health Consortium has the desire to further study the efficacy of a statewide Veterans
17 Response Team and the benefit of providing this critical service to the veteran population;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
20 Representatives concurring therein, that the Behavioral Health Consortium shall establish a Veterans Sub-Committee to
21 operate under the Consortium's Correction & Law Enforcement Committee. The Sub-Committee will have a specific focus
22 on the behavioral and mental health needs of the veteran population in Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This Senate Concurrent Resolution establishes a Veterans Sub-Committee of the Correction & Law Enforcement Committee of the State's Behavioral Health Consortium.

Author: Senator Ennis