

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 10

### DIGEST OF RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION adding Indiana Veteran's Administration Medical Centers to the Center for Compassionate Innovation.

## Zent, Bartels, Barrett

February 2, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Heath. April 8, 2021, reported — Do Pass.



# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 10

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION adding Indiana Veteran's
2	Administration Medical Centers to the Center for
3	Compassionate Innovation.
4	Whereas, The "signature wounds" of Iraq and Afghanistan
5	are Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post Traumatic Stress
6	Disorder (PTSD) and are significant health issues for Indiana
7	veterans returning from service in Iraq and Afghanistan
8	(Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqu
9	Freedom (OIF), and Operation New Dawn (OND);
10	Whereas, Indiana has a veteran population of 392,388, and,
11	given the large presence of the National Guard and Reserve
12	units as well as VA Medical Centers in our communities,
13	veterans' issues are important to us;
14	Whereas, Congress has passed and President Trump has
15	signed the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental
16	Health Care Improvement Act of 2019, S785. This bill calls for,
17	among significant improvements to mental health care providea
18	by the Department of Veterans Affairs, partnerships with
19	non-federal government entities to provide [SEC.702]
20	hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) to veterans and studies on
21	the use of such therapy for treatment of post traumatic stress
22	disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI);
23	Whereas, This legislation culminates more than a decade of
24	effort to get Congressional support for HBOT for brain
25	injuries;
26	Whereas, A patient can suffer a brain insult like TBI, PTSD,



1	or PCS from any number of traumatic events, but the type of
2	events that have drawn the most attention over this past decade
3	relate to service in Iraq or Afghanistan after 9/11. Roadside
4	bombs, enemy mortar attacks, convoys being shot at,
5	exchanging gun fire while on foot patrol, and similar events
6	were all over our televisions and newspapers. Our young
7	veterans deserve to be cared for upon their return;

Whereas, A January 2012 study published by the Journal of Neurotrama found that application of a lower-pressure protocol of 40 HBOTs at 1.5 ATA to a 16-subject cohort of military subjects with blast-induced chronic PCS and PTSD was found to be safe, and as a group the 15 subjects experienced notable improvements in symptoms. Sixty-four percent of the patients on psychoactive and narcotic prescription medications were able to decrease or eliminate use of these medications;

Whereas, Israel completed its hyperbaric oxygen trials last January at Asaf Harofeh Medical Center and Tel Aviv University, and findings suggest that hyperbaric oxidative treatment (HBOT) should be employed to repair the brain from traumatic brain injuries (TBI). The team illustrated and analyzed the dramatic improvements in brain function and quality of life following two months of HBOT treatment in 74 participants, from six to 36 months after the insult, whose condition was no longer improving prior to the treatment. Yet the neurological functions and life quality of almost all the patients (more than 95%) were significantly improved after the HBOT sessions. Analyses of brain imaging (by SPECT scans) showed that the treatment led to an increase in brain activity in brain locations with neurons that stayed alive but did not have sufficient energy (blood supply) to function (generate firing of signals); and

Whereas, As it stands now, there are veterans who pay out of pocket for this treatment; and

Whereas, Indiana has several providers capable of providing hyperbaric oxygen therapy throughout the state: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:



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SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly strongly urges the Indiana Congressional Delegation to urge the Veterans Administration to add the VA Medical Centers that support Hoosier veterans be added to the Center for Compassionate Innovation (CCI) that provides HBOT currently to veterans with TBI-PTSD.

SECTION 2. That the Indiana General Assembly strongly encourages these medical centers to contract with these providers to become a "preferred provider" of HBOT for existing FDA approved on-label services and off-label services. The VA should pay for treatment to these providers who have contracts for services under the "meaningful use" contract between them.

SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to Representative Zent for distribution.



### COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Public Health, to which was referred House Concurrent Resolution 10, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said resolution do pass.

(Reference is to HC 10 as printed February 2, 2021.)

**BARRETT** 

Committee Vote: Yeas 12, Nays 0

