

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing March as Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month.

2 WHEREAS, each year, almost 40,000 people in Kentucky are admitted to a hospital  
3 emergency department or are hospitalized due to a traumatic brain injury. This is an  
4 average of 109 people per day who are treated for a brain injury in this Commonwealth;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, these injuries often leave the person with long-term physical,  
7 cognitive, and emotional disabilities that severely limit the ability to live independent  
8 lives; and

9 WHEREAS, Kentucky's rate of brain injury is five percent, nearly twice the national  
10 rate; and

11 WHEREAS, brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability in young  
12 children, and bicycle accidents are the fourth leading cause for brain injury in Kentucky;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, brain injury has affected over 266,000 men and women deployed  
15 overseas in military operations, and many veterans are still seeking assistance to cope  
16 with the long-term issues caused by these injuries; and

17 WHEREAS, over half of brain injuries reported occur in those younger than 21; and

18 WHEREAS, the annual cost of brain injury in the United States is \$460 billion in  
19 direct medical costs and lost wages; and

20 WHEREAS, brain injury is over six times more prevalent than breast cancer,  
21 HIV/AIDS, spinal cord injury, and multiple sclerosis combined; and

22 WHEREAS, the only cure for brain injury is prevention; and

23 WHEREAS, on behalf of all Kentuckians who have suffered from a traumatic brain  
24 injury, including Representative Brandon Reed on March 29, 2007, the members of this  
25 honorable body recognize March as Traumatic Brian Injury Awareness Month;

26 NOW, THEREFORE,

27 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*

1 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

2       ➔Section 1. The members of the House of Representatives hereby urge all  
3 citizens to work together to prevent brain injuries, to educate others about the effects of  
4 brain injury, and to support the survivors of brain injuries and their families in their  
5 efforts to return to their communities.

6       ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives hereby recognizes March as Traumatic  
7 Brain Injury Awareness Month.

8       ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a  
9 copy of this Resolution to Representative Brandon Reed.