

2020 -- H 7982

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LC004786
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 9TH THROUGH 15TH OF 2020 TO BE "BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Casimiro, Alzate, Blazejewski, and Shanley

Date Introduced: March 10, 2020

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island has projected that more than
2 14,000 residents of Rhode Island will sustain a traumatic brain injury this year; and

3 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island has identified brain injury as
4 the leading cause of death and disability among children and young adults in this country; and

5 WHEREAS, Brain injury is an extremely costly public health issue; and

6 WHEREAS, Advances in medical technology have enabled many persons with severe
7 brain injury to survive these injuries; and

8 WHEREAS, Persons with brain injury may need specialized rehabilitation programs and
9 other services to meet specific needs to live life to maximum potential; and

10 WHEREAS, Most forms of insurance, both public and private, that are available to
11 persons with brain injuries may not cover the rehabilitative and long-term care needs of these
12 individuals; and

13 WHEREAS, People with brain injury and their families too often must choose between
14 financial hardship or discontinuing critical treatment and services due to the substantial long-term
15 costs; and

16 WHEREAS, Without specialized community services, people with brain injury may
17 become inappropriately institutionalized; and

18 WHEREAS, Providing treatment methods and services to people with brain injury must
19 be a priority for the State of Rhode Island; and

1 WHEREAS, In partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
2 the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Defense Veterans Brain Injury
3 Center (DVBIC), and the Brain Injury Association of America, the Brain Injury Association of
4 Rhode Island strives to increase awareness of both acquired and traumatic brain injuries, thus
5 making prevention and safety measures part of the American culture, and decreasing the number
6 of brain injuries; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
8 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims the week of March 9th through 15th of 2020, to be "Brain
9 Injury Awareness Week" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
11 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Ms. Debra Sharpe, Executive Director of the
12 Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island.

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