

2017 -- H 5958

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 12TH THROUGH 18TH OF 2017 TO BE "BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Shekarchi, Morgan, Maldonado, and Blazejewski

Date Introduced: March 21, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island has identified that more than
2 12,000 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, public and private, that are available to persons
11 with brain injuries may not cover the rehabilitative and long-term care needs of these individuals;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, People with brain injury and their families too often must choose financial
14 hardship and discontinuing critical treatment and services due to the substantial long-term costs;
15 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), the Brain Injury Association of America and the Brain Injury Association of
4 Rhode Island strive to increase brain injury awareness, thus making prevention and safety
5 measures part of the American culture in an effort to decrease the number of brain injuries; now,
6 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 12th through 18th of 2017, to be
9 "Brain 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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