

2023 -- H 6228

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MARCH OF 2023, TO BE "BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH" IN  
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Donovan, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Ajello,  
Fenton-Fung, Edwards, Diaz, Cortvriend, and Bennett

Date Introduced: March 29, 2023

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 America has identified brain injury as the  
4 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 in the State of Rhode  
6 Island; and

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

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

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

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

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

19           WHEREAS, Providing treatment methods and services to people with brain injury must

1 be a priority for the State of Rhode Island; and

2 WHEREAS, Thousands of Rhode Islanders are affected by diseases of the brain, and  
3 brain injuries both acquired and traumatic including concussion, brain cancer, epilepsy, and other  
4 neurological disorders; now, therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
6 proclaims March of 2023, to be "Brain Injury Awareness Month" in the State of Rhode Island.  
7 We furthermore encourage all Rhode Islanders to observe Brain Injury Awareness Month and  
8 participate in the month-long planned activities highlighting the wonders of the brain; and be it  
9 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 Debra Sharpe, Executive Director of the Brain  
12 Injury Association of Rhode Island.

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