

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

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

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Raptakis, F. Lombardi, DiMario, Lawson, Mack, Euer,
de la Cruz, Paolino, and DeLuca

Date Introduced: March 30, 2023

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

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2 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island has identified that more than
3 12,000 residents of Rhode Island will sustain a traumatic brain injury this year; and

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

6 WHEREAS, Brain injury is an extremely costly public health issue in the State of Rhode
7 Island; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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