

2019 -- H 5845

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 11TH THROUGH MARCH 17TH TO BE "BRAIN
INJURY AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Kazarian, Casimiro, Alzate, Filippi, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: March 13, 2019

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 people with severe
7 brain injury to survive these injuries; and

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

10 WHEREAS, Most forms of insurance, public and private, that are available to people
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 collaboration with community partners and with the Centers for Disease
2 Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the
3 Defense Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC), the Brain Injury Association of America and the
4 Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island strive to increase brain injury awareness, thus making
5 prevention and safety measures part of the American culture in an effort to decrease 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 11 through March 17, 2019, 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 Debra Sharpe, Executive Director, of the Brain
12 Injury Association of Rhode Island.

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