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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 11TH THROUGH 17TH OF 2019 TO BE "BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Nesselbush, Ruggerio, Lombardi, Raptakis, and Satchell

Date Introduced: March 13, 2019

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, The Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island has identified 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, 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), 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 in an effort to decrease the  
6 number of brain injuries; now, therefore be it

7           RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
8 hereby proclaims the week of March 11th through 17th of 2019, to be "Brain Injury Awareness  
9 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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