

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY SENATOR COLOMB AND REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, June 27, 2017, as "Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day" in the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a mental health problem that can occur after someone has been exposed to a single traumatic event or multiple traumatic events, such as sexual or physical assault, natural or man-made disaster, and war-related combat stress; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of PTSD include persistent intrusive thoughts and distressing dreams about the traumatic event, triggered emotional responses to reminders of the trauma, efforts to avoid thinking or talking about the trauma, and persistent hypervigilance for cues that indicate additional danger or trauma reoccurring; and

WHEREAS, after a traumatic event, most people have painful memories that fade over time, but for others, the memories, thoughts, and feelings do not go away even months or years after the event is over; and

WHEREAS, PTSD significantly increases the risk of depression, suicide, and drug and alcohol related disorders and deaths; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of PTSD in members of the military is rising as the United States Armed Forces engages in military conflicts, exposing hundreds of thousands of soldiers to traumatic life-threatening events; and

WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who proudly serve their country and risk their lives to protect the freedoms we, as citizens, enjoy deserve the investment of every reasonable resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, raising PTSD awareness is essential to overcoming the myth, misinformation, and stigma surrounding this devastating mental health problem affecting so many Americans.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, June 27, 2017, as "Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day" in the state of Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES