HLS 18RS-207 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates June 2018 as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month and Wednesday, June 27, 2018, as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in Louisiana

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize June 2018 as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month and to recognize
3	Wednesday, June 27, 2018, as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in
4	Louisiana.
5	WHEREAS, all people have a right to the preservation of their personal dignity; and
6	WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States deserve the investment of resources to
7	ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and
8	WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who
9	proudly serve this great nation risk their lives to protect our freedom; and
10	WHEREAS, the diagnosis known as post-traumatic stress disorder was first defined
11	by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 in order to more accurately understand and
12	treat veterans who had endured severe, traumatic combat stress; and
13	WHEREAS, combat stress has historically been viewed incorrectly as a mental
14	illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of character or ability, and the word disorder carries a
15	stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and
16	WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) can occur as a result of severely
17	traumatic events including, without limitation, sexual assault, child abuse, high-impact
18	collisions and crashes, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and military combat; and
19	WHEREAS, PTSI is a common injury to the brain that is treatable and repairable;
20	and

1	WHEREAS, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a disorder
2	perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and this stigma can discourage the
3	injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and
4	WHEREAS, destigmatizing PTSI and honoring the bravery of persons recovering
5	from this injury can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek help
6	without fear of retribution or shame; and
7	WHEREAS, proper and timely treatment can improve health outcomes and diminish
8	rates of suicide among people with PTSI; and
9	WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from PTSI deserve our compassion and
10	consideration, and those who have received their wounds in action against an enemy of the
11	United States further deserve our tribute and recognition.
12	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
13	recognize the month of June 2018 as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month and
14	does hereby recognize June 27, 2018, as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in
15	Louisiana;
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does hereby urge the Louisiana
17	Department of Health and the Department of Veterans Affairs to increase efforts to educate
18	survivors of abuse, crime, and natural disaster; service members; veterans and their families;
19	and the general public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress
20	injury.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22	governor of Louisiana, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, and the
23	secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Recognizes June 27, 2018, as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day and June 2018 as Post-traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month.