

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE, DECLARING JUNE AS POST-TRAUMATIC
3 STRESS INJURY AWARENESS MONTH, DECLARING JUNE 27 AS POST-TRAUMATIC
4 STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
5 WELFARE AND THE DIVISION OF VETERANS SERVICES TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT
6 POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY.

7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States possess the basic human right
9 to the preservation of personal dignity; and

10 WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States deserve the investment of ev-
11 ery possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental and emotional
12 well-being; and

13 WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces
14 proudly serve this country and risk their lives to protect our freedom; and

15 WHEREAS, the diagnosis known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
16 was first defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to com-
17 monly and more accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured se-
18 vere traumatic combat stress; and

19 WHEREAS, combat stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness
20 caused by a preexisting flaw of character or ability, and the word "disorder"
21 carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and

22 WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI) can occur after experi-
23 encing a severely traumatic event to include, but not be exclusive to, sex-
24 ual assault, child abuse, high-impact collisions and crashes, natural dis-
25 asters, acts of terrorism and military combat; and

26 WHEREAS, Post-Traumatic Stress Injury is a very common injury to the
27 brain that is treatable and repairable; and

28 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as
29 a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and
30 this stigma can discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medi-
31 cal treatment; and

32 WHEREAS, making Post-Traumatic Stress Injury less stigmatized and more
33 honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek
34 help without fear of retribution or shame; and

35 WHEREAS, proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide rates; and

36 WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Injury de-
37 serve our compassion and consideration, and those who have received these
38 wounds in action against an enemy of the United States further deserve our
39 tribute and acknowledgment.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular
41 Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of
42 Representatives concurring therein, that June of each year be designated as

1 Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month and that June 27 of each year be
2 designated as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature respectfully urges the De-
4 partment of Health and Welfare and the Division of Veterans Services to con-
5 tinue working to educate victims of abuse, crime and natural disasters, ser-
6 vice members, veterans and their families, and the general public about the
7 causes, symptoms and treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Injury.