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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 402 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY AUMENT, DINNIMAN, MARTIN, BARTOLOTTA, BAKER,  
BREWSTER, SABATINA, GREENLEAF, BROWNE, SCHWANK, FOLMER,  
RAFFERTY, RESCHENTHALER AND WHITE, JUNE 20, 2018

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 20, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing June 27, 2018, as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury  
2 Awareness Day" and the month of June 2018 as "Post-Traumatic  
3 Stress Injury Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, The brave men and women of the United States Armed  
5 Forces, who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives  
6 to protect our freedom, deserve the investment of every possible  
7 resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental and emotional  
8 well-being; and

9 WHEREAS, The challenges of serving in combat do not stop for  
10 many veterans when they return home, but a new challenge begins  
11 that many of our servicemen and servicewomen must fight every  
12 day that causes them to struggle in silence; and

13 WHEREAS, The diagnosis now known as post-traumatic stress  
14 disorder or PTSD was first defined to commonly and more  
15 accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured severe  
16 traumatic combat stress; and

17 WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress has historically been viewed  
18 as a mental illness caused by a preexisting flaw in the

1 individual's brain or character, and the term carries a stigma  
2 that perpetuates this misconception; and

3 WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress injury occurs after a person  
4 has experienced a trauma and can result from not only the stress  
5 of combat but also rape, sexual assault, battery, torture,  
6 confinement or child abuse or a car accident, train wreck, plane  
7 crash, bombing or natural disaster; and

8 WHEREAS, Post-traumatic stress is a very common injury to the  
9 brain that is treatable and repairable; and

10 WHEREAS, Referring to post-traumatic stress injury as a  
11 disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental  
12 illness, and the stigma discourages those suffering from post-  
13 traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical  
14 treatment; and

15 WHEREAS, Making the condition less stigmatizing and more  
16 honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage  
17 them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame; and

18 WHEREAS, Proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide  
19 rates; and

20 WHEREAS, All citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress  
21 injury deserve recognition, while those who have received these  
22 wounds in service to our nation further deserve our respect and  
23 special honor; therefore it be

24 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize June 27, 2018, as "Post-  
25 Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day" and the month of June  
26 2018 as "Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month" in  
27 Pennsylvania; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate commend the Adjutant General and  
29 the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for working to  
30 educate service members, veterans, the families of service

1 members and veterans, victims of abuse, crime and natural  
2 disaster and the general public about the causes, symptoms and  
3 treatment of post-traumatic stress injury.