

1 A RESOLUTION designating June 27, 2017, as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury  
2 Awareness Day and designating June 2017 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Month.

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

5 WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States deserve the investment of every  
6 possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

7 WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who  
8 proudly serve the United States risk their lives to protect our freedom; and

9 WHEREAS, the diagnosis now known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)  
10 was first defined by the American Psychiatric Association in 1980 to commonly and more  
11 accurately understand and treat veterans who had endured severe traumatic combat stress;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, combat stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused  
14 by a pre-existing flaw of character or ability, and the word "disorder" carries a stigma that  
15 perpetuates this misconception; and

16 WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) can occur after experiencing a  
17 severely traumatic event to include, but not to be exclusive to: sexual assault, child abuse,  
18 high-impact collisions and crashes, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and military  
19 combat; and

20 WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) is a very common injury to the  
21 brain that is treatable and repairable; and

22 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from post-traumatic stress as a  
23 "disorder" perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and this stigma can  
24 discourage the injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and

25 WHEREAS, making post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) less stigmatizing and more  
26 honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek help  
27 without fear of retribution or shame; and

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

2 WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve our  
3 compassion and consideration, those who have received these wounds in action against  
4 an enemy of the United States further deserve our tribute and acknowledgement;

5 NOW, THEREFORE,

6 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*  
7 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives is proud to honor the members and  
9 veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States by designating June 27, 2017, as Post-  
10 Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day and by designating June 2017 as Post-Traumatic  
11 Stress Injury Awareness Month.

12 ➔Section 2. The House of Representatives encourages the Department for  
13 Military Affairs, the Department for Public Health, the Department of Veterans Affairs,  
14 and other state agencies to continue working to educate service members, veterans, the  
15 families of service members and veterans, victims of abuse, crime, and natural disaster,  
16 and the general public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress  
17 injury.

18 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is hereby directed to  
19 transmit copies of this Resolution to Governor Matthew Bevin, 700 Capitol Avenue,  
20 Suite 100, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; to Secretary Vickie Yates Brown Glisson, Cabinet  
21 for Health and Family Services, Office of the Secretary, 275 E. Main Street, Frankfort,  
22 Kentucky 40621; to Commissioner Norman E. Arflack, Kentucky Department of  
23 Veterans Affairs, 1111B Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; and to Brigadier  
24 General Stephen Hogan, the Adjutant General, 100 Minuteman Parkway, Frankfort,  
25 Kentucky 40601.