

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 67

Expressing the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury and supporting the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2003

Mr. COCHRAN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury and supporting the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month.

Whereas traumatic brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability among children and young adults in the United States;

Whereas at least 5,300,000 Americans currently live with permanent disabilities resulting from traumatic brain injury;

Whereas at least 1,500,000 Americans sustain traumatic brain injury each year;

Whereas another 80,000 Americans each year sustain lifelong disabilities from traumatic brain injury, resulting in life-

altering experiences that can include the most serious physical, cognitive, and emotional impairments;

Whereas every 21 seconds, 1 person in the United States sustains traumatic brain injury;

Whereas traumatic brain injury costs the United States \$48,300,000,000 annually, consisting of approximately \$31,700,000,000 for hospitalization expenditures and approximately \$16,600,000,000 for fatal brain injury expenditures;

Whereas the lack of public awareness is so vast that traumatic brain injury is known in the disability community as the Nation's "silent epidemic";

Whereas the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month will work toward enhancing the public awareness of traumatic brain injury;

Whereas former President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the month of October 1984 as National Head Injury Awareness Month; and

Whereas the Brain Injury Association of America has recognized October as Brain Injury Awareness Month since 1980: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes the life-altering impact that traumatic brain injury can have, both on Americans living with the resultant disabilities and on their families;

4 (2) recognizes the need for enhanced public awareness of traumatic brain injury;

1 (3) supports the designation of an appropriate
2 month as National Brain Injury Awareness Month;
3 and

4 (4) encourages the President to issue a procla-
5 mation designating National Brain Injury Awareness
6 Month.

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