

1 SR10
2 181348-1
3 By Senators Dial and McClendon
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 07-FEB-17

8 RECOGNIZING POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS
9 IN ALABAMA.

10
11 WHEREAS, all citizens of the United States possess
12 the basic human right to the preservation of personal dignity;
13 and

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

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

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

25 WHEREAS, combat stress has historically been viewed
26 as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of character

1 and ability; the word "disorder" carries a stigma that
2 perpetuates this misconception; and

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

8 WHEREAS, PTSI is a very common injury to the brain
9 that is treatable and repairable; and

10 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from
11 post-traumatic stress as a disorder perpetuates stigma of and
12 bias against mental illness, and this stigma can discourage
13 the injured from seeking proper and timely medical treatment;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, making PTSI 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
19 suicide rates; and

20 WHEREAS, all citizens suffering from PTSI deserve
21 our compassion and consideration; those who have received
22 these wounds in action against an enemy of the United States
23 further deserve our tribute and acknowledgement; now
24 therefore,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
26 ALABAMA, That June 27, 2017, is recognized as Post-Traumatic
27 Stress Injury Awareness Day and that June 2017 is recognized

as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Month in the State of Alabama.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we respectfully encourage the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Military Department, and the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs to continue working to educate victims of abuse, crime, natural disaster, service members, veterans and their families, and the general public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress injury; and request that the Secretary of the Alabama Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Governor of Alabama.