
HOUSE RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING JUNE 27, 2016, AS "POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS AWARENESS DAY" TO ENCOURAGE ALL PUBLIC, PRIVATE, AND MILITARY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE EDUCATING SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, VICTIMS OF ABUSE, CRIMES, AND NATURAL DISASTERS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE CAUSES, SYMPTOMS, AND TREATMENT FOR POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURIES.

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

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7 WHEREAS, combat operational stress has historically been
8 viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw of
9 character or ability, or both, and the term "Post-Traumatic
10 Stress Disorder" (PTSD) carries a stigma that perpetuates this
11 misconception; and

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13 WHEREAS, post-traumatic stress can occur not only after a
14 traumatic event experienced in combat, but also after rape,
15 sexual assault, battery, torture, confinement, child abuse,
16 automobile accidents, train wrecks, airplane crashes, bombings,
17 and natural disasters; and

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19 WHEREAS, referring to the complications from post-traumatic
20 stress as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against
21 mental illness that discourages those suffering from post-
22 traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical
23 treatment; and

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25 WHEREAS, making the condition less stigmatizing and more
26 honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage
27 them to seek timely treatment without fear of retribution or
28 shame and will diminish the PTSD suicide rate; and



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1 WHEREAS, all those who are suffering from post-traumatic
 2 stress injuries deserve consideration and those who have
 3 received wounds in service to this Nation further deserve
 4 respect and recognition; now, therefore,

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 6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 7 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 8 Session of 2016, that June 27, 2016, be designated as "Post-
 9 Traumatic Stress Awareness Day" to encourage all public,
 10 private, and military service providers to continue educating
 11 service members and veterans and their families, victims of
 12 abuse, crimes, and natural disasters, and the general public
 13 about the causes, symptoms, and treatment for post-traumatic
 14 stress injuries; and

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 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 17 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Adjutant General,
 18 Director of Health, and the Director of the Office of Veterans'
 19 Services.

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OFFERED BY: _____

MAR 11 2016

