

No. R-218. House concurrent resolution recognizing June 27, 2022 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in Vermont.

(H.C.R.145)

Offered by: Representatives Copeland Hanzas of Bradford, Anthony of Barre City, Austin of Colchester, Bartholomew of Hartland, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Birong of Vergennes, Black of Essex, Bluemle of Burlington, Bongartz of Manchester, Burke of Brattleboro, Campbell of St. Johnsbury, Canfield of Fair Haven, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Conlon of Cornwall, Dolan of Essex, Dolan of Waitsfield, Donnally of Hyde Park, Gannon of Wilmington, Garofano of Essex, Goldman of Rockingham, Gregoire of Fairfield, Hango of Berkshire, Harrison of Chittenden, Hooper of Burlington, Houghton of Essex, Howard of Rutland City, James of Manchester, Jerome of Brandon, Killacky of South Burlington, Kornheiser of Brattleboro, Lefebvre of Orange, Lippert of Hinesburg, Marcotte of Coventry, Masland of Thetford, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Morris of Springfield, Morrissey of Bennington, Mrowicki of Putney, Murphy of Fairfax, Nicoll of Ludlow, Ode of Burlington, Page of Newport City, Pajala of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Scheu of Middlebury, Shaw of Pittsford, Sibilia of Dover, Small of Winooski, Stebbins of Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Strong of Albany, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Vyhovsky of Essex, White of Hartford, Whitman of Bennington, Wood of Waterbury, Yacovone of Morristown, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, in 1980, the American Psychiatric Association created the term Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to describe the severe post-combat stress that Vietnam veterans were experiencing, and

Whereas, the use of the term “disorder” attaches a terrible and unjustified stigma on the men and women who served our nation in combat and demeans first responders, abuse and crime victims, and survivors of life-threatening accidents and natural disasters, and

Whereas, the American Psychiatric Association’s *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM), Fifth Edition, distinguishes between common post-traumatic stress and the more debilitating and longer-lasting form of stress, and

Whereas, an alternative description for the more debilitating form of post-traumatic stress is Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI), a term which preserves the distinction between the short- and long-term types of post-traumatic stress and removes the unjustified stigma associated with the term disorder, and

Whereas, in 2011, then Army Vice Chief of Staff, General Peter Chiarelli, requested that the American Psychiatric Association adopt the PTSI terminology, but the term PTSD still remains in the DSM, and

Whereas, the Honor for ALL organization, with the support of the National Guard Association of the United States, the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States, veterans’ groups, many state legislatures, and both houses of Congress, has recognized the importance of substituting PTSI for PTSD as the DSM’s description of the type of brain injury that combat veterans and others have sustained, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes June 27, 2022 as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Honor for ALL organization in Royal Oak, Michigan.