

By: Senator(s) Michel, Frazier, McCaughn

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 539

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE MARCH 2024 AS "BRAIN  
2 INJURY AWARENESS MONTH IN MISSISSIPPI" TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF THE  
3 EXTENT, CONSEQUENCES, CAUSES, TREATMENTS AND PREVENTION OF  
4 ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURIES.

5 WHEREAS, acquired brain injury is often overlooked and  
6 underfunded, and affects thousands of Mississippians each year;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, a traumatic brain injury (TBI) is caused by a bump,  
9 blow, or jolt to, or penetration of, the head that disrupts the  
10 normal function of the brain; and

11 WHEREAS, more than 30,000 Mississippians are currently living  
12 with the long-term effects of a brain injury; and

13 WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of brain-related  
14 injuries in Mississippi. Brain injuries can also be caused by  
15 motor vehicle crashes, assaults, sports-related injuries,  
16 occupational-related injuries, or opioid overdoses; and

17 WHEREAS, Mississippi has more than 30,000 active military  
18 personnel and has over 190,000 veterans residing in the state; and



19           WHEREAS, traumatic brain injury has been the signature injury  
20 of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Treatment is often complicated  
21 by high rates of PTSD and suicide, presenting new challenges for  
22 members of the military and their families in the state; and

23           WHEREAS, thirty percent of sports-related injuries happen  
24 among youth five to 19 years of age, and because the signs of  
25 brain injury are not always well recognized, youth may put  
26 themselves at risk for another injury and potentially fatal  
27 second-impact syndrome; and

28           WHEREAS, it is estimated that between 1.6 to 3.8 million mild  
29 traumatic brain injuries, often called concussions, occur in the  
30 United States per year during competitive sports and recreational  
31 activities; and

32           WHEREAS, as many as 50% of mild traumatic brain injuries go  
33 unreported or undetected; and

34           WHEREAS, an injury that happens in an instant can bring a  
35 lifetime of physical, cognitive, and behavioral challenges; and

36           WHEREAS, early and adequate intervention, especially  
37 cognitive rehabilitation, will greatly increase the quality of  
38 life and enable individuals with brain injury to return to home,  
39 school, work, or their communities; and

40           WHEREAS, March has been designated as National Brain Injury  
41 Awareness Month to promote awareness of the extent, consequences,  
42 causes, treatments, and prevention of acquired brain injuries; and



43           WHEREAS, the Brain Injury Association of America and Brain  
44 Injury Association of Mississippi are dedicated to Changing Minds  
45 about Brain Injury:

46           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
47 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
48 we do hereby designate March 2024 as "Brain Injury Awareness Month  
49 in Mississippi" to promote awareness of the extent, consequences,  
50 treatments, and prevention of acquired brain injuries, and commend  
51 its observance to all citizens.

52           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be forwarded to  
53 the Brain Injury Association of Mississippi for appropriate  
54 dissemination and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

