

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.

