

Enrolled
Senate Joint Resolution 21

Sponsored by Senator MORRISETTE, Representative BOQUIST; Senators DECKERT, KRUSE, MONNES ANDERSON, NELSON, WALKER, Representatives BARKER, BONAMICI, BOONE, CAMERON, DALLUM, DINGFELDER, FLORES, GILLIAM, HUNT, KRIEGER, MAURER, MORGAN, NELSON, OLSON, ROSENBAUM, SCHAUFLE, THATCHER, WHISNANT (at the request of Brain Injury Association of Oregon)

Whereas 1.5 million Americans sustain a traumatic brain injury each year, and 500,000 of those individuals die as a result of these injuries; and

Whereas approximately 5.3 million Americans live with disabilities resulting from traumatic brain injury each year, and 500,000 of those individuals die as a result of these injuries, including 72,000 Oregonians; and

Whereas traumatic brain injury ranks as the leading cause of death and disability in children and young adults; and

Whereas 40,000 individuals over the age of 65 visit hospital emergency rooms for traumatic brain injury resulting from a fall, leading to the hospitalization of 16,000 senior citizens and the deaths of 4,000 senior citizens annually; and

Whereas the costs relating to brain injury are staggering, and individuals with traumatic brain injury typically face 5 to 10 years of intensive rehabilitation with cumulative costs exceeding \$60 billion annually; and

Whereas individuals with traumatic brain injury suffer from serious physical impairments and a variety of perceptual, cognitive, psychiatric, emotional and behavioral complications, including impaired interpersonal and problem-solving skills, memory loss, decreased thought-processing abilities, speech and seizure disorders, and physical deficits; and

Whereas the only cure for traumatic brain injury is prevention, and public awareness is critical to the prevention of brain injury and to enhancing the recovery process of all individuals affected by traumatic brain injury; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That the month of March in each year is designated as Brain Injury Awareness Month. All Oregon citizens are urged to recognize that knowing the consequences of traumatic brain injury is critical to public understanding, and that this understanding can lead to the prevention of traumatic brain injury and enhance the recovery process for traumatic brain injury survivors.

Adopted by Senate March 19, 2007

Secretary of Senate

President of Senate

Adopted by House May 10, 2007

Speaker of House