


Chairman Phil Mendelson

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize March as Brain Injury Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, of the 2.9 million individuals who receive emergency medical care for a traumatic brain injury (TBI) each year in the United States, 60,600 die, and 223,000 are hospitalized;

WHEREAS, among children under 18 years of age, traumatic brain injury results in an estimated 2,500 deaths, and 16,500 hospitalizations, and 812,000 emergency visits annually;

WHEREAS, the leading causes of traumatic brain injury are falls (48%), motor vehicle-traffic crashes (24%), assaults (6%), and struck by/against events (2%);

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that at least 5.3 million Americans currently have a long-term or lifelong need for help to perform activities of daily living as a result of a TBI and the annual estimated cost to society for medical care and lost wages exceeds \$76 billion;

WHEREAS, the D.C. Department of Health has stated that District of Columbia residents experience traumatic brain injury at a higher rate than the national norm;

WHEREAS, the mission of the Brain Injury Association of D.C. is to provide help, hope, and healing by being the voice of brain injury;

WHEREAS, the Brain Injury Association of D.C. is part of an elite nationwide network of Chartered State Affiliates, through the Brain Injury Association of America, that provides on-going programs, services, education, and advocacy to individuals with brain injury, their family members and friends and the professionals who serve them;

WHEREAS, the Brain Injury Association of D.C. spearheaded an effort to protect youth athletes from concussion in the District of Columbia, leading to the enactment of the Athletic Concussion Protection Act of 2011;

WHEREAS, the Brain Injury Association of D.C. sponsors, in association with MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital, a monthly support group for individuals with brain injury, and their family members and friends; and

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44 WHEREAS, the designation of a National Brain Injury Awareness Month will work
45 toward enhancing public awareness of traumatic brain injury and increase the recognition of the
46 life-altering impact traumatic brain injury can have both on Americans living with the resultant
47 disability as well as on their families.

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49 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
50 resolution may be cited as the “March is Brain Injury Awareness Month Recognition Resolution
51 of 2022.”

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53 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes March as Brain Injury
54 Awareness Month and acknowledges the importance of raising public awareness of the need: (1)
55 to reduce the incidence of traumatic brain injury, (2) for improved acute care and rehabilitation,
56 and (3) for increased access to services for those with permanent traumatic brain injury related
57 disabilities.

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59 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
60 the District of Columbia Register.