

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 65

Senator Barrett, Alexander, Ananich, Brinks, Bullock, Geiss, Hollier, Johnson, Lucido, MacDonald, McCann, McMorrow, Moss, Santana, VanderWall and Wojno offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to commemorate June 27, 2019, as Post Traumatic  
2       Stress Injury Awareness Day.

3       Whereas, The brave men and women of the United States (U.S.)  
4       Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States, risk their lives  
5       to protect the freedom of the United States and deserve the  
6       investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting  
7       physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing; and

8       Whereas, More than 2,000,000 U.S. service members have  
9       deployed as part of overseas contingency operations since the  
10      events of September 11, 2001; and

1       Whereas, The military has sustained an operational tempo for a  
2 period of time unprecedented in the history of the United States,  
3 with many service members deploying multiple times to combat  
4 zones, placing them at high risk of post traumatic stress  
5 injury (PTSI); and

6       Whereas, It is expected that ten thousand veterans will return  
7 to the state of Michigan every year for the next three to five  
8 years after spending a significant amount of time in combat  
9 environments, exposing thousands of soldiers to traumatic life  
10 threatening events; and

11       Whereas, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports that  
12 in fiscal year 2012, more than 500,000 veterans from all wars who  
13 sought care at a Department of Veterans Affairs medical center  
14 received treatment for PTSI; and

15       Whereas, PTSI significantly increases the risk of depression,  
16 suicide, and drug or alcohol-related disorders and deaths; and

17       Whereas, Thousands of Michigan corrections professionals who  
18 perform a critical and dangerous job protecting the public suffer  
19 health detriments due to high stress and potentially traumatic  
20 occupational experiences. Recent studies have shown that nearly  
21 33.7 percent of surveyed corrections officers are estimated to be  
22 PTSI positive in this state; and

23       Whereas, The U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S.  
24 Department of Veterans Affairs have made significant advances in  
25 the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of PTSI and the symptoms  
26 of PTSI. However, many challenges remain; and

27       Whereas, The establishment of a Post Traumatic Stress Injury  
28 Awareness Day in Michigan will raise public awareness about issues  
29 related to PTSI; now, therefore, be it

1           Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative  
2 body commemorate June 27, 2019, as Post Traumatic Stress Injury  
3 Awareness Day; and be it further

4           Resolved, That we urge the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency  
5 and the Adjutant General to continue working to educate service  
6 members, veterans, the families of service members and veterans,  
7 and the public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post  
8 traumatic stress injury; and be it further

9           Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the  
10 Governor of the state of Michigan.