

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 70

Senator Barrett offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate June 27, 2021, as Post-Traumatic
2 Stress Injury (PTSI) Awareness Day.

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

11 Whereas, The military has sustained an operational tempo for a
12 period of time unprecedented in the history of the U.S., with many

1 service members deploying multiple times to combat zones, placing
2 them at high risk of PTSI; and

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

8 Whereas, In fiscal year 2012, the U.S. Department of Veterans
9 Affairs reported that more than 500,000 veterans from all wars who
10 sought care at a Department of Veterans Affairs medical center
11 received treatment for PTSI; and

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

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

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

24 Whereas, The establishment of a Post-Traumatic Stress Injury
25 Awareness Day in Michigan raises public awareness about issues
26 related to PTSI; now, therefore, be it

27 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
28 body commemorate June 27, 2021, as Post-Traumatic Stress Injury
29 (PTSI) Awareness Day; and be it further

1 Resolved, That we urge the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
2 and the Adjutant General to continue working to educate service
3 members, veterans, the families of service members and veterans,
4 and the public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of PTSI;
5 and be it further

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