STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2004

Source <u>SCS CSHCR 31(HES) am S</u> Legislative Resolve No. <u>43</u>



Proclaiming June 2004 as Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS brain injury is a serious, national public health epidemic affecting at least 5,300,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, every 21 seconds, someone in the United States will sustain a traumatic brain injury, which equals more than 4,000 people daily; and

WHEREAS, each year, at least 50,000 Americans die and 80,000 Americans experience the onset of life-long disabilities as a result of sustaining a brain injury; and

WHEREAS, each year at least 600 Alaskans receive acute care for trauma related to brain injuries, 150 Alaskans die from brain injury, and approximately 190 Alaskans experience the beginning of life-long disabilities requiring marked adaptations to daily functioning as a result of sustaining a brain injury; and

WHEREAS prevention is the only known cure; and

WHEREAS the mission of the Alaska Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board and the Brain Injury Association of America is to create a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education, and advocacy; and WHEREAS, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, the Brain Injury Association of America, and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority strive to increase brain injury awareness, thus making prevention and safety measures part of the American culture in an effort to decrease the number of brain injuries;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims the month of June 2004 as Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges schools, community groups, and other public and private agencies and individuals to observe Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month with appropriate activities that increase the public's awareness of traumatic brain injury, the leading causes of traumatic brain injury, and ways of preventing traumatic brain injury.