

**SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31(HES)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/8/04

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES MCGUIRE, Samuels, Gruenberg, Anderson, Wolf, Wilson, Berkowitz, Heinze, Meyer, Gatto, Ogg, Morgan, Dahlstrom, Kerttula, Guttенberg, Stepovich, Seaton, Lynn, Croft

**A RESOLUTION**

1 **Proclaiming May 2004 as Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** brain injury is a serious, national public health epidemic affecting at least  
4 5,300,000 Americans; and

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

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

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

13 **WHEREAS** prevention is the only known cure; and

14 **WHEREAS** the mission of the Alaska Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board and  
15 the Brain Injury Association of America is to create a better future through brain injury  
16 prevention, research, education, and advocacy; and

1           **WHEREAS**, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the  
2 Health Resources and Services Administration, the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center,  
3 the Brain Injury Association of America, and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority strive  
4 to increase brain injury awareness, thus making prevention and safety measures part of the  
5 American culture in an effort to decrease the number of brain injuries;

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

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