

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY SENATOR MCGUIRE

REPRESENTATIVES Kerttula, Lynn, Gruenberg, Johnson, Dahlstrom

Introduced: 1/21/09

Referred: Health and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Relating to establishing March 2009 as Brain Injury Awareness Month.**

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

3 **WHEREAS** traumatic brain injury is a leading cause of death and disability among
4 children and young adults in the State of Alaska; and

5 **WHEREAS** an estimated 12,000 people in the State of Alaska have suffered a
6 traumatic brain injury; and

7 **WHEREAS** approximately 800 people in the State of Alaska report traumatic brain
8 injuries each year; and

9 **WHEREAS** the number of Alaskans with a traumatic brain injury is increasing
10 significantly as military service members injured overseas return home to Alaska; and

11 **WHEREAS** 20 percent of traumatic brain injuries result in death; and

12 **WHEREAS** many people who suffer traumatic brain injuries live with permanent
13 disabilities; and

14 **WHEREAS** most cases of traumatic brain injury are preventable; and

15 **WHEREAS** the lack of public awareness is so vast that traumatic brain injury is
16 known in the disability community as the nation's "silent epidemic"; and

1 **WHEREAS** the Brain Injury Association of America has recognized the month of
2 March each year as Brain Injury Awareness Month;

3 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the life-altering
4 effect that traumatic brain injury may have on people living with disabilities resulting from
5 traumatic brain injury and on their families; and be it

6 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature recognizes the need for
7 enhanced public awareness of the effects of traumatic brain injury; and be it

8 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports the designation
9 of March 2009 as Brain Injury Awareness Month and encourages the people of the state to
10 observe Brain Injury Awareness Month with appropriate programs and activities.