



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY

- WHEREAS:** The brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces, who proudly serve the United States and risk their lives to protect our freedom, deserve the investment of all resources to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and
- WHEREAS:** Severe post-traumatic stress injury is a disabling wound to the brain which can occur following exposure to extremely traumatic events; and
- WHEREAS:** Post-traumatic stress has historically been viewed as a mental illness caused by a pre-existing flaw in the individual's brain or character. The term "post-traumatic stress disorder" carries a stigma that perpetuates this misconception; and
- WHEREAS:** Referring to post-traumatic stress injury as a disorder perpetuates the stigma of and bias against mental illness, and the stigma discourages those suffering from post-traumatic stress from seeking proper and timely medical treatment; and
- WHEREAS:** Making the condition less stigmatizing and more honorable can favorably influence those affected and encourage them to seek help without fear of retribution or shame; and
- WHEREAS:** Proper and timely treatment can diminish suicide rates; and
- WHEREAS:** All citizens suffering from post-traumatic stress injury deserve recognition, and those who have received these wounds in service to our nation further deserve our respect and special honor; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 27, 2019 as POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS INJURY AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 19th day of June in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Trinity K. Fleming

CHIEF OF STAFF