



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, 2.8 million Americans sustain a traumatic brain injury each year, and an estimated 5.3 million Americans are living with disabilities caused by brain injury; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 200,000 hospitalizations related to traumatic brain injuries each year, and nearly 70,000 Americans die annually as a result of traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, approximately 12,000 - 15,000 individuals sustain brain injuries from traumatic events annually, of which 1,000 are fatal; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 175,000 New Jersey citizens who have disabilities resulting from a traumatic brain injury; and

WHEREAS, the highest rates of traumatic brain injury occur among individuals under 35 years of age and rise sharply after age 65; and

WHEREAS, people with a brain injury often have perceptual, physical, emotional and/or psychiatric problems with a combination of cognitive impairment, impaired interpersonal skills, memory loss, impaired problem solving skills, slowness in thought processing, speech disorders, physical deficits and epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, the only cure for a brain injury is prevention, and public awareness is critical to achieve that goal, as well as to enhance the recovery process of all persons affected by a brain injury; and

WHEREAS, Brain Injury Alliance of New Jersey provides education, outreach, prevention, advocacy and support services to all persons affected by a brain injury and to the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services, Division of Disability Services administers the Traumatic Brain Injury Fund offering services and supports to eligible NJ residents living with a TBI;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mikie Sherrill, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

MARCH 2026
AS
BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this second day of February in the year two thousand twenty-six, the two hundred fiftieth year of the Independence of the United States.

Dale G. Callahan
Lt. GOVERNOR

Mikie Sherrill
GOVERNOR