



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, acquired brain injury is often overlooked and underfunded, and affects approximately 15,000 residents in New Jersey each year; and*

*WHEREAS, a traumatic brain injury (TBI) is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to, or penetration of, the head that disrupts the normal function of the brain; and*

*WHEREAS, falls are a leading cause of brain-related injuries in New Jersey and they can also be the result of motor vehicle crashes, assaults, sports-related injuries, occupational-related injuries, or opioid overdoses; and*

*WHEREAS, traumatic brain injury has been the signature injury of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, treatment is often complicated by high rates of PTSD and suicide, presenting new challenges for members of the military and their families in the state; and*

*WHEREAS, 30 percent of sports-related injuries happen among youth five and 19 years of age, and, because the signs of brain injury are not always well recognized, youth may put themselves at risk for another injury and potentially fatal second-impact syndrome; and*

*WHEREAS, as many as 50 percent of mild traumatic brain injuries go unreported or undetected; and*

*WHEREAS, approximately one fourth of shaken baby syndrome victims die as a result of direct brain injuries and survivors of shaken baby syndrome suffer permanent neurological damage; and*

*WHEREAS, early and adequate intervention, especially cognitive rehabilitation, will greatly increase the quality of life and enable individuals with brain injury to return to home, school, work, or their communities; and*

*WHEREAS, March has been designated as National Brain Injury Awareness Month to promote awareness of the extent, consequences, causes, treatments, and prevention of acquired brain injuries.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED* that I, Ronald Jubin, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, along with Member of the Council, do hereby proclaim the month of March as **Brain Injury Awareness Month** and call upon residents to recognize the value and importance of brain injury prevention and awareness.

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor  
March 21, 2024