
ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming March 2015 as Concussion Awareness Month.

Whereas, concussions are a mild form of traumatic brain injury that interfere with normal brain function, and can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or any blow to the body that causes the head to move back and forth rapidly; and

Whereas, although classified as a mild form of traumatic brain injury because they are usually non-life-threatening, concussions must still be taken seriously; and

Whereas, concussion symptoms are vast and range from mild to severe and may include headaches that will not go away, having more trouble than usual remembering things or concentrating, confusion about recent events, feeling tired all the time, feeling sad or anxious, or becoming easily irritated or angry for little or no reason; and

Whereas, although for many, recovery from concussions is a quick process, the effects can be long-term, and those who have had a head injury are two to four times more likely to have another head injury; and

Whereas, in high school sports alone, concussions suffered by athletes have more than doubled between the 2005–06 school year and the 2012–13 school year and now make up 23 percent of high school athletic injuries; and

Whereas, 20 percent of the 1.5 million head injuries that occur in the United States each year are sports-related; and

Whereas, parents, coaches, and athletic trainers should be fully aware of concussion symptoms, be able to identify them in children, not allow children to return to play until they are completely asymptomatic, and make sure their return is gradual based on their recovery; and

Whereas, while the short-term effects of concussions are well known and easily identifiable in individuals, the long-term effects are still unclear; and

Whereas, although research into the subject is new, early reports suggest that even a single concussion may cause lasting brain damage, including structural brain damage in regions of the brain linked to mood disorders and depression; and

Whereas, in fact, between 10 to 20 percent of those who have had a concussion may go on to develop chronic problems; and

Whereas, future research into this subject should be encouraged in order to better educate ourselves on the severity of effects individuals face after suffering one or multiple concussions; and

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the legislature hereby proclaims
March 2015 as Concussion Awareness Month in Wisconsin.

Representative Robin J. Vos
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Mary Lazich
President of the Senate

Date

Jeffrey Renk
Senate Chief Clerk