



Introduced Version

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 15

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION remembering Mike Jenkins, victim of CTE, on CTE Awareness Day, January 30, 2018.

LANANE

January 29, 2018, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.



Introduced

Second Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2018)

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 15

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION remembering Mike Jenkins,
2 victim of CTE, on CTE Awareness Day, January 30, 2018.

3 *Whereas, Chronic Tramatic Encephalopathy, or CTE, is a*
4 *progressive, degenerative brain disease that appears in persons*
5 *with a history of repetitive brain trauma sustained over a*
6 *period of years;*

7 *Whereas, CTE was first described in 1928 by Dr. Harrison*
8 *Martland in a study published in the Journal of the American*
9 *Medical Association linking brain injury and boxing;*

10 *Whereas, It was not until 2002 that Dr. Bennet Omalu*
11 *discovered the first pathological evidence of CTE in a*
12 *professional football player, and together with his colleagues*
13 *at the University of Pittsburgh, published the details of his*
14 *groundbreaking findings in 2005;*

15 *Whereas, CTE is caused by a buildup of an abnormal*
16 *protein called Tau in the brain leading to brain cell death;*

17 *Whereas, The risk of developing CTE is greatest with*
18 *athletes, military veterans, and domestic violence survivors,*

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1 *who frequently endure repeated sub-concussive blows to the*
2 *head from playing contact sports, traumatic injury from*
3 *military training or blasting, or hits sustained by partners or*
4 *caretakers;*

5 *Whereas, While symptoms associated with CTE, such as*
6 *sleep disturbances, memory loss, tremors, addictions,*
7 *progressive dementia, depression, suicidal thoughts, impaired*
8 *judgement, and paranoia, most often present themselves years*
9 *or decades after the brain trauma or blows cease, symptoms*
10 *associated with CTE have been found in a patient as young as*
11 *eighteen years old;*

12 *Whereas, Currently, CTE can only be definitively*
13 *diagnosed after death through postmortem neuropathological*
14 *analysis;*

15 *Whereas, Advocacy organizations, health care providers,*
16 *and institutional researchers are dedicated to studying the*
17 *cause and symptoms of CTE in order to enable parents and*
18 *families to make informed decisions regarding the best interests*
19 *of their children in youth sports and to develop an earlier*
20 *diagnostic tool so patients may address these symptoms as*
21 *early as possible;*

22 *Whereas, One such advocacy organization is the Faces of*
23 *CTE, founded by the California families of the following*
24 *athletes: Junior Seau and Grant Feasel, who suffered from CTE*
25 *after playing youth, high school, college, and NFL football;*
26 *Tyler Cornell, who played youth and high school football; Paul*
27 *Bright Jr., who played football from the ages of seven to fifteen;*

28 *Whereas, The mission of the Faces of CTE is to put a face*
29 *to the mind robbing disease, Chronic Traumatic*
30 *Encephalopathy, and educate the public that CTE does not only*
31 *impact professional athletes, but children and non-athletes as*
32 *well;*

33



1 *Whereas, Mike Jenkins, a lifelong resident of Indiana, who*
2 *began playing football starting at the age of seven and played*
3 *as a tight end for Warren Central High School, is one of those*
4 *faces;*

5 *Whereas, Mike suffered from effects of CTE later in his life;*

6 *Whereas, Upon his death on May 11, 2011 Mike's brain*
7 *was donated to the Boston University concussion study where*
8 *it was found he had stage two CTE;*

9 *Whereas, Since Mike's family became aware of CTE, they*
10 *have become very involved in CTE awareness working with*
11 *Save Your Brain Organization and Faces of CTE; and*

12 *Whereas, The Faces of CTE founded CTE Awareness Day*
13 *on January 30, 2017, and now, along with other organizations,*
14 *celebrates CTE Awareness Day across the United States in*
15 *order to reflect on those lost to CTE, how to help those*
16 *suffering with the disease, and most importantly, how to stop*
17 *the disease: Therefore,*
18

19 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
20 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*
21

22 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly expresses its
23 gratitude to the family of Mike Jenkins and their contributions to
24 science and The Faces of CTE.

25 SECTION 2. That the Secretary of Senate is hereby directed to
26 transmit copies of this Resolution to Marcia Jenkins and Debra Jenkins.

