

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a serious, national public health epidemic that results in a life-altering experience that can include the most serious physical, cognitive, and emotional impairments; and,

*Whereas*, each year every nine seconds someone in the United States sustains a brain injury; and,

*Whereas*, more than 3.5 million children and adults sustain a TBI each year, but the total incidence is unknown; and,

*Whereas*, every day 137 people die in the United States because of a TBI-related disability; and,

*Whereas*, TBI was the signature injury in the war in Iraq and in Afghanistan, presenting new challenges for members of the military and their families; and,

*Whereas*, the lack of public awareness is so vast that TBI is known in the disability community as the nation's "silent epidemic":

*Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 2022, as

***BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH***

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this twenty-eighth day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

  
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Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

  
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Steven J. Barnett, Secretary of State