



Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, Traumatic Brain Injury is a leading cause of death and disability among children and adults in the United States. Available statistics and recent media coverage call attention to the enormity of TBI as a public health concern, to its common causes, and its often life-altering consequences. Encouraging reports also surface about safety precautions, medical interventions and rehabilitation strategies effective in reducing brain injury's devastating impact on individuals, families, and the nation. However, additional education and awareness is required to translate emerging knowledge about TBI into personal and public practices that sufficiently protect Alabamians, and promote the fullest recovery, productivity, and life satisfaction among those injured and their families; and

WHEREAS, each year in Alabama almost 10,000 people receive a brain injury, 500 die and 1,500 become disabled. Among children ages 0 to 14, TBI results in an estimated 2,685 deaths, 37,000 hospitalizations and 435,000 emergency visits each year in the United States; and as children are at an increased risk for long-term deficits and catastrophic consequences; and

WHEREAS, leading causes of TBI are reported to be falls (28%); motor vehicle-traffic crashes (20%); struck by/against events (19%) and assaults (11%), concerns about the number of injuries sustained by those serving in Iraq and/or Afghanistan, and among athletes of all ages have also come to light; and

WHEREAS, a concussion is considered a serious injury to the brain; multiple concussions can lead to lifelong disability and death; concussions are widely under-recognized by the general and athletic populations, and many concussions go undiagnosed by medical providers. Very few educational programs are available for patients with mild TBI, their caregivers, teachers, coaches and medical providers; and

WHEREAS, children and adults with brain injury have unique needs for accommodations enabling maximum independence and success in activities of daily living, educational and vocational pursuits, and home and community life.

WHEREAS, it is with encouragement that Prattville's children, adults, seniors, officials and advocates to reflect and act on opportunities to promote awareness, understanding, and prevention of brain injury for the benefit of all.

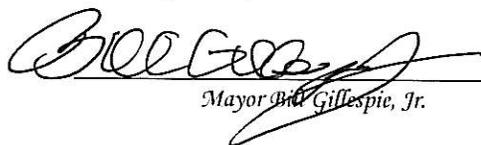
NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Gillespie, Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby Proclaim the month of March, 2011, as

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Prattville.



Given Under My Hand and Seal of the City of Prattville on
the 14th of March, 2011.


Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.