

House Resolution No. 1333

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MAY.

2378H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE) is a progressive degenerative
2 disease found in people who have had a severe blow or repeated blows to the head; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, the disease was previously called dementia pugilistica (DP) or “punch-
5 drunk”, as it was initially found in those with a history of boxing; and

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7 **WHEREAS**, CTE was first defined by Dr. Bennet Omalu, a Nigerian-born
8 neuropathologist, who published his findings in The Journal of Neurosurgery in 2005; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, professional athletes are the largest demographic to suffer from CTE due
11 to frequent concussions from play in contact sports such as football, ice hockey, rugby, boxing,
12 soccer, and wrestling; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, CTE can also affect youth athletes after only a few years of athletic activity;
15 and

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17 **WHEREAS**, the brain of a person with CTE gradually deteriorates and tau proteins begin
18 to become defective and interfere with neuron functioning; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, currently, CTE can only be diagnosed through an autopsy by studying the
21 brain tissue after death; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, symptoms of CTE generally begin 8-10 years after experiencing repetitive
24 mild traumatic brain injury; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, first stage symptoms include deterioration in attention as well as
27 disorientation, dizziness, and headaches. Further disabilities appear with progressive
28 deterioration, including memory loss, social instability, erratic behavior, and poor judgment.

29 Third and fourth stages include progressive dementia, slowing of muscular movements, impeded
30 speech, deafness, and suicidal thoughts; and

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32 **WHEREAS**, 87 out of 91 former National Football League (NFL) players who donated
33 their brains to science were confirmed to have CTE; and

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35 **WHEREAS**, according to various medical journals and studies, the brain does not
36 become fully developed until 18 to 25 years of age; and

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38 **WHEREAS**, the dangers of CTE should be stressed to all athletes, but especially youth
39 athletes in our state:

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41 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
42 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, hereby urge the
43 citizens of this state to become aware of the dangers of chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE);

44 and

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46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
47 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for every
48 public and private school district in this state.

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