
HOUSE RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING MAY 5 THROUGH MAY 9, 2008, AS HAWAII TEEN DATING
VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK.

1 WHEREAS, one in three female teenagers in a dating
2 relationship has feared for her physical safety; and

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4 WHEREAS, one in two teenagers in a serious relationship has
5 compromised personal beliefs to please a partner; and

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7 WHEREAS, one in five teenagers in a serious relationship
8 reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and

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10 WHEREAS, twenty-seven per cent of teenagers have been in
11 dating relationships in which their partners called them names
12 or "put them down"; and

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14 WHEREAS, twenty-nine per cent of girls who have been in a
15 relationship said that they have been pressured to have sex or
16 to engage in sexual activities that they did not want; and

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18 WHEREAS, technologies such as cell phones and the Internet
19 have made dating abuse both more pervasive and more hidden; and

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21 WHEREAS, thirty per cent of teenagers who have been in a
22 dating relationship say that they have been text-messed
23 between ten and thirty times per hour by a partner seeking to
24 find out where they are, what they are doing, or who they are
25 with; and

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27 WHEREAS, seventy-two per cent of teenagers who reported
28 they had been checked up on by a boyfriend or girlfriend ten
29 times or more per hour by email or text messaging did not tell
30 their parents; and

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32 WHEREAS, parents are largely unaware of the cell phone and
33 internet harassment experienced by teenagers; and

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1 WHEREAS, cultural, linguistic, socioeconomic, and political
2 barriers prevent Asian women from seeking help in abusive
3 situations; and

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5 WHEREAS, seven domestic violence related homicides were
6 reported in 2000 in Hawaii, with a disproportionately high rate
7 of those women being of Filipino descent; and

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9 WHEREAS, violent relationships in adolescence can have
10 serious ramifications for victims, putting them at higher risk
11 for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior,
12 suicide, and adult revictimization; and

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14 WHEREAS, the severity of violence among intimate partners
15 has been shown to be greater in cases where the pattern of
16 violence has been established in adolescence; and

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18 WHEREAS, the establishment of Hawaii Teen Dating Violence
19 Awareness and Prevention Week will benefit schools, communities,
20 and families regardless of socioeconomic status, race, or sex;
21 now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
25 Session of 2008, that this body designates the week of May 5
26 through May 9, 2008, as "Hawaii Teen Dating Violence Awareness
27 and Prevention Week"; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature calls upon the
30 people of Hawaii, high schools, law enforcement, state and local
31 officials, and interested groups to observe Hawaii Teen Dating
32 Violence Awareness and Prevention Week with appropriate programs
33 and activities that promote awareness and prevention of the
34 crime of teen dating violence in their communities; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Superintendent of
38 Education, the President of the University of Hawaii, the



1 Director of Health, the Attorney General, the mayor of each
2 county, and the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic
3 Violence.
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JAN 18 2008

