
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY 2009 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 when with a
3 partner; and
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5 WHEREAS, one in two teenagers in a serious relationship
6 reports having compromised personal beliefs to please a partner;
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9 WHEREAS, one in five teenagers in a serious relationship
10 reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and
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12 WHEREAS, twenty-seven per cent of teenagers have been in
13 dating relationships in which their partners called them names
14 or "put them down"; and
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16 WHEREAS, twenty-nine per cent of girls who have been in a
17 relationship said that they have been pressured to have sex or
18 to engage in sexual activities that they did not want; and
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20 WHEREAS, technologies such as cell phones and the Internet
21 have made dating abuse both more pervasive and more hidden; and
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23 WHEREAS, thirty per cent of teenagers who have been in a
24 dating relationship say that they have been text-messaged
25 between ten and thirty times per hour by a partner seeking to
26 find out where they are, what they are doing, or who they are
27 with; and
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29 WHEREAS, seventy-two per cent of teenagers who reported
30 that they had been checked up on by a boyfriend or girlfriend
31 ten times or more per hour by email or text messaging did not
32 tell their parents; and
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1 WHEREAS, parents are largely unaware of the cell phone and
2 internet harassment experienced by teenagers; and

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4 WHEREAS, cultural, linguistic, socioeconomic, and political
5 barriers prevent Asian women from seeking help in abusive
6 situations; and

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

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

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17 WHEREAS, the severity of violence among intimate partners
18 has been shown to be greater in cases where the pattern of
19 violence has been established in adolescence; and

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

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
29 designates the first week of February 2009 as "Hawaii Teen
30 Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week"; and

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

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
41 Superintendent of Education, the President of the University of
42 Hawaii, the Director of Health, the Attorney General, the mayor
43 of each county, and the Executive Director of the Hawaii State
44 Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

