
HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION
MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, men, and children of
2 all racial, social, religious, age, ethnic, and economic groups
3 in the United States; and
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5 WHEREAS, on average, a person is sexually assaulted in the
6 United States every two and a half minutes; and
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8 WHEREAS, one in six women and one in 33 men have been the
9 victim of rape or attempted rape; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Defense received 2,688 reports
12 of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces in
13 fiscal year 2007; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the rate of reported forcible rape, including
16 assaults and attempts to commit rape by force in the State of
17 Hawaii increased 3.9 percent from 2006 to 2007; and
18

19 WHEREAS, only 41 percent of sexual assault victims pursue
20 prosecution by reporting their attacks to law enforcement
21 agencies; and
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23 WHEREAS, sexual assault survivors suffer emotional scars
24 long after the physical scars have healed; and
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26 WHEREAS, prevention education programs carried out by rape
27 crisis and women's health centers have the potential to reduce
28 the prevalence of sexual assault in their communities; now,
29 therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 3 of 2009, that April is recognized as "Sexual Assault Awareness
 4 and Prevention Month"; and

5
 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the month of April will provide
 7 a special opportunity to educate the people of Hawaii about
 8 sexual violence and to encourage the prevention of sexual
 9 assault, the improved treatment of its survivors, and the
 10 prosecution of its perpetrators; and

11
 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that community organizations and
 13 private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for
 14 their work in promoting awareness about sexual assault, and
 15 providing information and treatment to its survivors; and

16
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body encourages community
 18 organizations, businesses in the private sector, colleges and
 19 universities, and the media to promote, through "Sexual Assault
 20 Awareness and Prevention Month," awareness of sexual violence
 21 and strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault; and

22
 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 24 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services and
 25 the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against
 26 Domestic Violence.

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Ray Hanover

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