
HOUSE RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY 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
4

5 WHEREAS, one in two teenagers in a serious relationship
6 reports having compromised personal beliefs to please a partner;
7 and
8

9 WHEREAS, one in five teenagers in a serious relationship
10 reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and
11

12 WHEREAS, 27 percent of teenagers have been in dating
13 relationships in which their partners have called them names or
14 "put them down"; and
15

16 WHEREAS, 29 percent of girls who have been in a
17 relationship report having been pressured to have sex or to
18 engage in sexual activities that they did not want; and
19

20 WHEREAS, technologies such as cell phones and the Internet
21 have made dating abuse both more pervasive and more hidden; and
22

23 WHEREAS, 30 percent of teenagers who have been in a dating
24 relationship say they have been text-messaged between ten and 30
25 times per hour by a partner seeking to determine their
26 whereabouts, what they are doing, or who they are with; and
27

28 WHEREAS, 72 percent of teenagers who reported that they had
29 been checked on by a boyfriend or girlfriend ten times or more
30 per hour by email or text message did not tell their parents;
31 and
32

33 WHEREAS, parents are largely unaware of cell phone and
34 Internet harassment experienced by teenagers; and



1 WHEREAS, involvement in violent relationships during the
2 adolescent years can have serious ramifications for victims,
3 putting them at higher risk for substance abuse, eating
4 disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-
5 victimization; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the severity of violence between intimate partners
8 has been observed to be greater in cases in which a pattern of
9 violence has been established in adolescence; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the establishment of "Hawaii Teen Dating Violence
12 Awareness and Prevention Week" will benefit schools,
13 communities, and families regardless of socioeconomic status,
14 race, or sex; now, therefore,
15

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
18 of 2009, that the first week in February is hereby designated as
19 "Hawaii Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week"; and
20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature calls upon the
22 people of Hawaii, high schools, law enforcement personnel, state
23 and local officials, and interested groups to observe "Hawaii
24 Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week" with
25 appropriate programs and activities that promote awareness and
26 encourage prevention of teen dating violence in their
27 communities; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,
31 Superintendent of Education, President of the University of
32 Hawaii, Attorney General, the mayor of each county, and the
33 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against
34 Domestic Violence.
35
36
37

