
HOUSE CONCURRENT 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
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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
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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, the Senate concurring, that April is recognized as
 4 "Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month"; and

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 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

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

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

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OFFERED BY: John M. Lopez
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