



HR0186

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Sexual assault is a serious public health  
3 problem; along with unwanted sexual contact and verbal sexual  
4 harassment, sexual assault is a major human rights and social  
5 justice issue that affects millions of women, men, and  
6 children in the United States; and

7           WHEREAS, Sexual assault affects people of all genders and  
8 all racial, social, religious, age, ethnic, and socioeconomic  
9 groups; and

10           WHEREAS, Nearly one in five women and nearly one in 38 men  
11 experience completed or attempted rape during their lifetime;  
12 it is estimated that nearly one in two women and one in five  
13 men experience sexual violence, other than rape, throughout  
14 their lifetime; and

15           WHEREAS, One in three female rape victims and  
16 approximately one in four male rape victims experienced sexual  
17 violence for the first time between 11 and 17 years old; and

18           WHEREAS, In addition to the immediate physical and  
19 emotional costs, sexual assault survivors frequently suffer  
20 from severe and long-lasting effects, including post-traumatic  
21 stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression,

1 homelessness, eating disorders, low self-esteem, and suicide;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the strength and  
4 courage of the victims of sexual assault and acknowledge the  
5 challenges they face, along with their families and friends,  
6 as they struggle to cope with the reality of sexual assault;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, It is also important to recognize the compassion  
9 and dedication of the individuals involved in addressing this  
10 public health problem and to applaud their commitment to  
11 foster healing and increase public understanding of sexual  
12 assault; and

13 WHEREAS, Many states and organizations join the effort  
14 each year to address the problem of sexual assault, to educate  
15 the public, and to advocate for the prevention of sexual  
16 violence; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
18 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
19 we declare April 2021 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and  
20 be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we support State, national, and global

1 efforts that bring awareness to the problem of sexual assault,  
2 including the causes, effects, and means of prevention.