

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING APRIL, 2011, TO BE "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN  
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senators Perry, Paiva Weed, Lanzi, Nesselbush, and Felag

Date Introduced: April 12, 2011

Referred To: Recommended for Immediate Consideration

1 WHEREAS, Sexual assault is a despicable crime that affects victims, families, and our  
2 entire society, and tragically, crimes that are sexually violent in nature continue to rank among  
3 the most prevalent in our society and create some of the most widespread public health problems  
4 in our communities; and

5 WHEREAS, Sexual assault affects every child and adult in Rhode Island as a  
6 victim/survivor or a family member, significant other, neighbor, friend, or co-worker of a  
7 victim/survivor; and

8 WHEREAS, One in four girls and one in six boys will be a victim of sexual abuse before  
9 they are 18 years old; and

10 WHEREAS, Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our campus  
11 communities as seen by statistics indicating that one in five college-aged women will have  
12 experienced sexual assault by the time she completes college; and

13 WHEREAS, We must work together to educate our community about what can be done  
14 to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

15 WHEREAS, With leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling  
16 evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in Rhode Island through  
17 prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence  
18 responsible for their actions; and

19 WHEREAS, Volunteers and community providers in Rhode Island are working to

1 provide a continuum of support or care to sexual assault survivors through the Victims of Crime  
2 Helpline, counseling, support groups, advocacy, medical care, and education; and

3 WHEREAS, The State of Rhode Island seeks to improve services for victims/survivors of  
4 sexual assault and prevent future sexual assault through public awareness and services for  
5 victims; and

6 WHEREAS, We hold forth a vision of a community free from violence; now, therefore  
7 be it

8 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,  
9 in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against sexual violence, hereby proclaims  
10 April 5, 2011, to be a "Day of Action" during the 2011 Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We  
11 furthermore urge all the citizens of the state to take an active role in ending sexual violence; and  
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to  
14 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Day One, the state's primary provider of sexual  
15 assault services.

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