

2012 -- H 8061

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

**PROCLAIMING APRIL, 2012 TO BE "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Ajello, Cimini, Tanzi, Ruggiero, and Walsh

Date Introduced: April 10, 2012

Referred To: House read and passed

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 they complete 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 House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
9 Providence Plantations, in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against sexual
10 violence, hereby proclaims April 10, 2012, to be a "Day of Action" during the 2012 Sexual
11 Assault Awareness Month. We furthermore urge all the citizens of the state to take an active role
12 in ending sexual violence; and 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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