

2015 -- H 6058

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2015

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

**PROCLAIMING APRIL, 2015, TO BE "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Introduced By: Representatives Ackerman, Tanzi, Fogarty, Maldonado, and Naughton

Date Introduced: April 09, 2015

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Each and every day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the
2 future; and

3 WHEREAS, The goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is to increase public
4 awareness and call attention to the facts about sexual violence prevention, the need for resources
5 to support survivors, and to educate communities on how to speak out against harmful attitudes
6 and actions, in order to help prevent sexual violence; and

7 WHEREAS, This year, the focus of SAAM is preventing sexual assault on college
8 campuses. According to research reported by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center,
9 across this nation on our college campuses, one in five women and one in sixteen men are
10 sexually assaulted during their years in college; and

11 WHEREAS, Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, with one in
12 six boys and one in four girls experiencing a sexual assault before the age of eighteen, and youth
13 between the ages of twelve and seventeen being 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual
14 assault; and

15 WHEREAS, Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our communities.
16 Statistics show that one in five women and one in seventy-one men will be raped at some point in
17 their lives. Sexual abuse prevention must be a priority; and

18 WHEREAS, Citizens, government entities, and organizations, joining forces and
19 becoming actively involved can prevent sexual violence. The first step is increasing education,

1 awareness, and community involvement in order to create a safer environment for all; now,
2 therefore be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
4 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims the month of April, 2015, to be "Sexual Assault
5 Awareness Month" in our state. We furthermore join Day One, a Rhode Island Sexual Assault
6 and Trauma resource, to urge advocates and communities across the state to take action to prevent
7 sexual violence; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
9 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Peg Langhammer, Executive Director of Day
10 One.

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