

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 72

Designating the month of April as “National Sexual Assault Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 24, 2001

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. GREGG, Mr. DODD, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. REID, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BAYH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating the month of April as “National Sexual Assault Awareness Month”.

Whereas non-stranger and stranger rape and sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds;

Whereas women, children, and men suffer multiple types of sexual violence;

Whereas the Department of Justice reports that a sexual assault occurs every 90 seconds;

Whereas it is estimated by the Bureau of Justice Statistics that over 70 percent of rapes are never reported to the police;

Whereas in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide;

Whereas it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to survivors and work to increase the public understanding of this significant problem;

Whereas State coalitions and local rape crisis centers across the Nation are committed to increasing public awareness of sexual violence and its prevalence and to eliminating it through education;

Whereas important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, allied professionals, and victim services;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have identified sexual assault as a significant, costly, and preventable health issue; and

Whereas the United States Government has expressed a commitment to eliminating sexual violence in society with various legislative actions and appropriations, including the Violence Against Women Act, Grants to Combat Violence Against Women on Campus, and through projects of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) designates the month of April 2001, as
2 “National Sexual Assault Awareness Month”;

3 (2) encourages individual and collective efforts
4 that reflect the vision of a Nation where no sexual
5 assault victim goes un-served or ever feels there is
6 no path to justice and where citizens work toward
7 eliminating all forms of sexual violence; and

8 (3) requests that the President of the United
9 States issue a proclamation calling on the people of
10 the United States and interested groups to observe
11 “National Sexual Assault Awareness Month” with
12 appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs to
13 reflect the commitment to eliminating sexual vio-
14 lence from society and to acknowledge the work of
15 organizations and individuals against sexual violence.

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