

**STATE OF ALASKA
THE LEGISLATURE**

2009

Source
HCR 11

**Legislative
Resolve No.**
8



Proclaiming the month of April 2009 to be Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds, and occurs through acquaintance rape, stranger rape, sexual assault by a partner, child sexual abuse, incest, sexual harassment, prostitution, and pornography; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that one in three women, one in four girls, one in six boys, and one in 11 men will be victims of sexual violence; and

WHEREAS the crime of sexual assault violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, and leaves long-lasting physical and emotional scars that can influence every aspect of an individual's life; and

WHEREAS this state, at 2.5 times the national average, continues to have the highest per capita occurrence of sexual assault in the nation, and it is important that sexual assault be recognized as a preventable problem in every community, large and small, in the state; speaking out against sexual assault is an important first step to eliminating this devastating crime; and

WHEREAS it is also important to recognize the compassion, commitment, and dedication of the individuals who provide services to sexual assault survivors and work to increase public understanding of this major problem; and

WHEREAS one person, organization, agency, or community cannot by itself eliminate sexual violence, and the citizens of this state need to work together to educate the entire population of the state about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, to support victims, survivors, and their families, and to increase support for agencies providing services to these survivors; by uniting in this effort, the citizens of this state can make a difference;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims the month of April 2009 to be Sexual Assault Awareness Month and encourages all of the citizens of this state to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month by speaking out against sexual assault and letting others know that sexual assault will not be tolerated.