



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Shackelford

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing February as Teen
2 Dating Violence Awareness Month.

3 *Whereas, During the month of February, we honor and raise*
4 *awareness for our youth affected by teen dating violence. Teen*
5 *dating violence is a pattern of violent, coercive, or manipulative*
6 *behaviors to gain power and maintain control over another*
7 *person in a relationship;*

8 *Whereas, Indiana faces higher than average rates of teen*
9 *dating violence. One in 10 Hoosier teens face physical violence*
10 *in their relationship, while one in eight have experienced sexual*
11 *violence in their relationship;*

12 *Whereas, Teen dating violence can display itself in multiple*
13 *forms. Teens facing violence in their relationships can face*
14 *physical, sexual, or psychological violence, including stalking*

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1 *and abuse through technology;*

2 *Whereas, Violence and aggressive behaviors pervasive in*
 3 *formative intimate relationships can create unhealthy*
 4 *relationship patterns, which often continue throughout life. It*
 5 *is important to address these behaviors to ensure the continued*
 6 *safety of Hoosiers;*

7 *Whereas, Sixteen to 24-year-olds are three times more likely*
 8 *than any other age group to be a victim of intimate partner*
 9 *violence;*

10 *Whereas, Teen dating violence can impact youth and*
 11 *families in every community throughout Indiana;*

12 *Whereas, Placing value and importance on local*
 13 *organizations that work to educate and assist Indiana youth*
 14 *about the signs and effects of unsafe relationships is crucial to*
 15 *ensuring the safety of our teens;*

16 *Whereas, The Marion County Prosecutor's Office recognizes*
 17 *this social problem and has secured a multi-year public grant*
 18 *to provide a dedicated deputy prosecutor to educate youth on*
 19 *the issue and prosecute related cases in Marion County;*

20 *Whereas, In 2010, the Indiana General Assembly enacted a*
 21 *law to implement dating violence education programs in grades*
 22 *6 through 12 and dating violence response policies in Indiana*
 23 *schools; and*

24 *Whereas, We must ensure Hoosier teens have a strong*
 25 *understanding of healthy and safe relationships because*
 26 *everyone is deserving of a healthy relationship: Therefore,*

27 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
 28 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

29 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
 30 recognizes February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness
 31 Month.

32 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
 33 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to State



- 1 Representative Robin Shackleford for distribution.

