

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 516

By Gilmore

A RESOLUTION to commemorate April 2021 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a societal problem that affects nearly every community within our State and nation; and

WHEREAS, sadly, the number of abused or neglected children continues to increase every year; child abuse and neglect includes physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and physical neglect, all of which may be the result of a multiplicity of such social problems as family dysfunction, mental health problems, substance abuse, inadequate parenting skills, teen pregnancy, homelessness, family violence, crime, and poverty; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of community and State leadership to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect and to establish prevention and support mechanisms for children and parents in order to stop the cycle of abuse that destroys the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, the commemoration of April 2021 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" is an effort to raise awareness of child abuse and to encourage communities throughout our State to create partnerships among social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community and to become involved in supporting parents in raising their children in a safe, nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, for more than thirty-five years, Nurture the Next has supported Tennessee's parents and their communities in creating loving homes that make children feel nurtured; for Child Abuse Prevention Month, they are working to raise awareness about the importance of local communities supporting parents in building resilient homes with a month-long campaign, Lift a Parent, Raise a Child; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby commemorate the month of April 2021 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.