

By Representative Frankel

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House Resolution

A resolution declaring April 20, 1997, through April 26, 1997, as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Week.

WHEREAS, we the citizens of the State of Florida believe that the children of this state should be born healthy, grow up in a safe and nurturing environment, have the full support of their mother and father, experience educational success, achieve economic independence, and reach their fullest potential in life, and

WHEREAS, teen pregnancy and parenting increases the likelihood of low birth weight, developmental delays and disabilities, and child abuse and neglect for the infant; and disruption of education, decreased income potential, economic dependence on welfare, and subsequent pregnancies during her teenage years for the mother, and

WHEREAS, the burden associated with teen pregnancy and parenting is also borne by the taxpayers of Florida through increased costs in the areas of health care, education, welfare, and juvenile crime, and

WHEREAS, in each of the last seven years, more than 17,000 of Florida's children from ages 10 through 18 years have given birth to children, and

WHEREAS, a summit on the prevention of teen pregnancy which included private and public representation from around the state identified public awareness as an important strategy for addressing this problem, and

WHEREAS, the prevention of teen pregnancy should be a priority for the State of Florida, and

1 WHEREAS, the State of Florida should further focus its
2 attention on the prevention of teen pregnancy by building
3 awareness of the causes, extent, and consequences of the
4 problem; building linkages between local, state, and national
5 resources; and calling its citizens to action in their
6 communities to address this critical issue, NOW, THEREFORE,

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8 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
9 Florida:

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11 That the week of April 20, 1997, through April 26,
12 1997, is declared to be Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness
13 Week.

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