

By Senator Fasano

11-04357-09

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2009 as "Sexual Assault
3 Awareness Month" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, sexual assault continues to be a major social
6 crisis in our society, with one in nine women in Florida having
7 been a victim of sexual violence, and

8 WHEREAS, sexual assault affects many Floridians, as a
9 victim of sexual assault or as a family member, friend,
10 significant other, neighbor, or co-worker of a victim of sexual
11 assault, and

12 WHEREAS, sexual assault has a devastating effect on the
13 lives of victims, affecting every aspect of a person's life and
14 increasing the risk for post-traumatic stress disorder,
15 depression, suicide, homelessness, and substance abuse, and

16 WHEREAS, volunteers and service providers in Florida's 31
17 certified rape crisis centers work to provide a continuum of
18 care to sexual assault survivors through 24-hour hotlines,
19 counseling, support groups, advocacy, medical care, and
20 education, and

21 WHEREAS, the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence seeks
22 to improve services for victims of sexual assault and to prevent
23 future sexual assault through public awareness and services for
24 victims, and

25 WHEREAS, the Florida Senate recognizes the vital importance
26 of designating a time devoted to increasing the general public's
27 awareness and support of agencies providing services to sexual
28 assault victims, and envisions a future free from sexual
29 violence in our communities, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

That April 2009 is recognized as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence as a tangible token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.