

HR 9063

2010

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2010 as "Sexual Assault
3 Awareness Month" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, sexual assault continues to be a major social
6 crisis in our society, with one in nine women in Florida being a
7 survivor of sexual violence, and

8 WHEREAS, sexual assault affects many Floridians, either
9 directly, as the survivor of sexual assault, or indirectly, as a
10 family member, friend, neighbor, or coworker of the survivor,
11 and

12 WHEREAS, sexual assault has a devastating effect on
13 survivors, affecting every aspect of their lives, often leading
14 to posttraumatic stress disorder and increasing the risk of
15 depression, suicide, homelessness, and substance abuse, and

16 WHEREAS, volunteers and service providers in Florida's 30
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 survivors of sexual assault and to
23 prevent future sexual assault through public awareness and
24 services for victims, and

25 WHEREAS, Lauren's Kids, Inc., the organization founded by
26 child sexual abuse survivor and educator Lauren Book-Lim, in
27 conjunction with the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence,
28 has organized a 500-mile, healing-journey walk across Florida

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29 | called "Walk In My Shoes," which symbolizes the long and painful
30 | road to recovery for survivors of sexual assault, and

31 | WHEREAS, this "Walk In My Shoes" walk from Aventura to
32 | Tallahassee will help provide awareness, guidance, and support
33 | for survivors while also working to educate adults and children
34 | about sexual assault, including the message that it is
35 | acceptable to tell others about abuse that they have
36 | experienced, and

37 | WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives recognizes
38 | the vital importance of designating a time devoted to increasing
39 | public awareness and support of agencies providing services to
40 | sexual assault survivors, and envisions a future in which all
41 | communities are free of sexual violence, NOW, THEREFORE,

42 |
43 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
44 | Florida:

45 |
46 | That April 2010 is recognized as "Sexual Assault Awareness
47 | Month" in Florida.

48 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be
49 | presented to the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence and
50 | Lauren's Kids, Inc., as a tangible token of the sentiments
51 | expressed herein.