

HR 9069

2016

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing January 2016 as "National
3 Stalking Awareness Month" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, stalking is a crime under federal law and the laws
6 of each state, and

7 WHEREAS, 7.5 million people in the United States are
8 victims of stalking each year, with the majority of those
9 victims being stalked by someone they know, and

10 WHEREAS, approximately 75 percent of women who are killed
11 by an intimate partner had been stalked by that partner, and

12 WHEREAS, many stalking victims lose productivity and
13 experience serious psychological distress at a much higher rate
14 than the general population, and

15 WHEREAS, stalking victims are often forced to protect
16 themselves by relocating, changing their identities, changing
17 jobs, and obtaining protection orders, and

18 WHEREAS, stalkers frequently use technology such as
19 cellular telephones, global positioning systems, cameras, and
20 spyware to monitor and track their victims and, as a result,
21 laws and public policies must be frequently updated to protect
22 the public from new tactics used by stalkers, and

23 WHEREAS, criminal justice systems can improve their
24 responses to stalking by regularly training their law
25 enforcement officers and aggressively investigating and
26 prosecuting the crime of stalking, and

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27 WHEREAS, communities can help deter stalking by adopting a
28 multidisciplinary response to stalking incidents that engages a
29 variety of local agencies and organizations and by providing and
30 improving existing victim services, and

31 WHEREAS, January has been designated "National Stalking
32 Awareness Month" in the United States, and

33 WHEREAS, victim service providers, criminal justice
34 officials, and concerned citizens throughout Florida and the
35 United States are joining forces to observe National Stalking
36 Awareness Month and to promote the 2016 theme of National
37 Stalking Awareness Month, "Stalking: Know it. Name it. Stop
38 it.," NOW, THEREFORE,

39

40 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
41 Florida:

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43 That January 2016 is recognized as "National Stalking
44 Awareness Month" in Florida to urge residents of the state to
45 educate themselves about the dangers of stalking and to raise
46 awareness about protection laws and the resources available to
47 stalking victims.