

By Senator Garcia

36-03456-17

20171842__

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 2017 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida's future depends on the health and well-being of the more than four million children in our state, and each of these children deserves to grow up free from abuse and neglect, and

WHEREAS, during the 2015-2016 fiscal year, more than 42,000 children were verified as being victims of child abuse and neglect, and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect can have devastating consequences for a child's physical, emotional, and behavioral development, leading to long-term challenges for the child and great cost to society, and

WHEREAS, communities throughout Florida can support the physical, social, emotional, educational, and spiritual development of children, and

WHEREAS, elected officials, state agencies and service providers, schools, faith and community organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community must work together to implement effective child abuse prevention efforts, and

WHEREAS, this month, Prevent Child Abuse Florida, the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection, the Department of Children and Families, and the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida are collaborating on the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign, a statewide initiative to raise awareness of healthy child development and positive parenting practices in

36-03456-17

20171842__

30 order to enable all children to achieve their full potential,
31 NOW, THEREFORE,

32

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

34

35 That April 2017 is recognized as "Child Abuse Prevention
36 Month" in Florida, and all Floridians are encouraged to identify
37 opportunities and initiate action to make a positive difference
38 in the lives of children.