

By Senator Cruz

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 2021 as "Sexual Assault  
3 Awareness Month" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, the recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month  
6 calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread  
7 and impacts every community in Florida, and

8 WHEREAS, the recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month  
9 raises public awareness about sexual violence; provides  
10 opportunities to educate the public about the impacts of sexual  
11 assault not only on the person assaulted, but on his or her  
12 loved ones and society as a whole; and encourages a community  
13 response to sexual violence, and

14 WHEREAS, in 2021, the focus of Sexual Assault Awareness  
15 Month in this state is "I AM," which recognizes and honors the  
16 differences in victims' and survivors' backgrounds, healing  
17 processes, and outlets and the choices of affected individuals  
18 regarding how they want to present and identify themselves to  
19 the world, and

20 WHEREAS, addressing sexual violence requires public  
21 engagement and action in calling out abuse, reinforcement of the  
22 anti-sexual violence movement and victim advocacy in the  
23 community, and support of survivors and the organizations that  
24 serve them, and

25 WHEREAS, the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence is the  
26 statewide resource on best practices for responding to victims  
27 and survivors of sexual violence and certifies the 31 sexual  
28 assault programs in this state which provide confidential,  
29 trauma-focused services to survivors of sexual violence

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30 regardless of when the victimization occurred and whether the  
31 assault was reported to law enforcement, and

32 WHEREAS, all Floridians have a part to play in protecting  
33 those who have been harmed by these traumatic assaults, NOW,  
34 THEREFORE,

35

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

37

38 That April 2021 is recognized as "Sexual Assault Awareness  
39 Month" in Florida.