

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 65

Reps. Glanville, Breen, Dievendorf, Fitzgerald, MacDonell, Mentzer, Rheingans, Rogers, Weiss, Witwer and Young offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the
4 fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts women,
5 children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic
6 backgrounds; and

7 Whereas, The term sexual assault refers to sexual contact or
8 behavior that occurs without explicit consent of the victim; and

9 Whereas, According to the National Sexual Violence Resource
10 Center, one in five women in the United States experienced
11 completed or attempted rape during their lifetime, and nearly a
12 quarter (24.8%) of men in the U.S. experienced some form of contact

1 sexual violence in their lifetime; and

2 Whereas, Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to
3 confront the reality that a Bureau of Justice statistics report in
4 2019 shows children between the ages of 14-17 were victims of
5 sexual assault; and

6 Whereas, Michigan State Police statistics indicate that there
7 were 6,823 incidents of rape that were reported to law enforcement
8 in 2019; and

9 Whereas, Sexual violence can deeply and enduringly impact
10 survivors on psychological, emotional, and social levels.
11 Approximately 68% of rape or sexual assault victims experience
12 moderate to severe distress, a larger percentage than for any other
13 violent crime studied in the National Crime Victimization Survey by
14 the Bureau of Justice Statistics; and

15 Whereas, Sexual violence is an intolerable violent crime with
16 public health implications for every person in Michigan. Our state
17 and individual communities must be committed to holding sexual
18 assault perpetrators accountable for their heinous crimes; and

19 Whereas, When we actively increase education, awareness, and
20 community involvement, we can help prevent sexual violence and
21 create a safer environment for everyone. We must work together to
22 educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent
23 sexual assault, support survivors, and ensure that survivors are
24 not re-victimized; now, therefore, be it

25 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
26 this legislative body declare April 2025 as Sexual Assault
27 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We strongly support the
28 efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every
29 citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent

- 1 sexual violence and will take appropriate action and support one
- 2 another to create a safer environment for all.