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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2017, TO BE "CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT  
PREVENTION MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Lancia, Morgan, and Shekarchi

Date Introduced: April 25, 2017

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Children are among our most precious and vulnerable population. They  
2 require love, affection, and nurturing from their parents or caregivers in order to develop physical  
3 and emotional health; and

4 WHEREAS, Children who have experienced child abuse or neglect can have lifelong  
5 consequences to their health, wellbeing, and relationships with others; and

6 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect are community-wide conditions and problems, and  
7 finding solutions depends on the involvement of people in the community; and

8 WHEREAS, According to the National Children's Alliance, in 2015, approximately  
9 683,000 children are victims of abuse and neglect in this country each year, and an estimated  
10 1,670 children died from this abuse and neglect; and

11 WHEREAS, In Rhode Island, according to the 2015 Rhode Island KIDS COUNT  
12 Factbook, there were 2,413 indicated investigations of child abuse and neglect involving 3,407  
13 children and almost half were children under the age of six; and

14 WHEREAS, Babies in their first year of life have the highest rate of victimization of 24.2  
15 per 1,000 children in the national population of the same age; and

16 WHEREAS, Almost 40 percent of abused children were hurt by a parent or caregiver,  
17 and 90 percent of the alleged abusers were related in some way to the child victim; and

18 WHEREAS, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships  
19 created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law

1 enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

2 WHEREAS, Child protection is a community effort and citizens should become more  
3 aware of the negative effects of child abuse, learn about the organizations and methods to aid in  
4 the prevention of child abuse, and become involved in supporting parents efforts to raise their  
5 children in safe, nurturing environments; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
7 Providence Plantations hereby proclaims the month of April, 2017, to be "Child Abuse and  
8 Neglect Prevention Month" in the State of Rhode Island and calls upon all citizens, community  
9 agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation  
10 in our efforts to prevent child abuse; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
12 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island.

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