



HR0252

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1982, Congress designated June 6-12 as the
3 first National Child Abuse Prevention Week; the following year,
4 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed April to be the first
5 National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a tradition that
6 continues to this day; and

7 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a major social problem
8 in Illinois, affecting 16,000 children statewide; in FY 2017,
9 according to the Children's Bureau's Child Maltreatment 2015
10 Report, an estimated 1,670 children died as a result of abuse
11 or neglect in the United States in 2015; and

12 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 100,000 cases of
13 abuse go unreported each year; the impact of abuse on children
14 manifests itself in many ways; the affected children may
15 experience a range of emotional, psychological, and physical
16 problems and trauma as a result of being abused or neglected;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, There are various organizations and agencies that
19 devote their full-hearted efforts to combating this vicious
20 problem and seek to provide these at-risk children with options
21 that help prevent and relieve afflicted children from the
22 hardship that is child neglect and abuse; and

1 WHEREAS, Organizations like the Children's Advocacy
2 Centers of Illinois, Children's Home + Aid, and Prevent Child
3 Abuse America have provided children and families the
4 opportunity of healing the wounds left from the harmful results
5 of child neglect and abuse; and

6 WHEREAS, Established in 1995, the Children's Advocacy
7 Centers of Illinois is a network that coordinates and provides
8 a comprehensive response to child abuse in Illinois through 37
9 locations in the State, working closely with the Department of
10 Children and Family Services and the Illinois Attorney
11 General's Office; and

12 WHEREAS, Children's Home + Aid has regional offices in
13 Bloomington, Rockford, Chicago, and Granite City; the
14 organization is a leading child and family service agency in
15 Illinois; each year, it protects, educates, and counsels more
16 than 40,000 children in over 60 counties, youth, and families
17 to overcome the overwhelming obstacles of poverty, abuse, and
18 neglect; and

19 WHEREAS, Founded in Chicago in 1972, Prevent Child Abuse
20 America works to ensure the healthy development of children
21 nationwide; the organization promotes this mission through a
22 network of chapters in 50 states and nearly 600 Healthy

1 Families America home visiting sites in 39 states, the District
2 of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Commonwealth of
3 the Marianas, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands,
4 and Canada; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois State law requires that Mandated
6 Reporters, including most professionals in education, health
7 care, law enforcement and social work, report suspected neglect
8 or abuse; and

9 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and concerned
10 individuals continue to try and raise awareness for and
11 education in emotional child abuse in the community and among
12 parents so as to produce a pro-active solution to the problem
13 of child abuse and neglect; and

14 WHEREAS, The National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a
15 time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities
16 working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to
17 promote the social and emotional well-being of children and
18 families; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
20 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
21 designate the month of April in 2017 and 2018 as Child Abuse
22 Prevention Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we encourage communities throughout the
2 State to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness
3 strategies and promote prevention across the State of Illinois.