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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, One in three adolescents in the United States is a
3 victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating
4 partner, a figure far exceeding other types of youth violence;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The National Council on Crime and Delinquency
7 points to this issue as being "shockingly common behavior among
8 adolescents"; and

9 WHEREAS, Violent relationships in adolescence put the
10 victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders,
11 risky sexual behavior, and further domestic violence; and

12 WHEREAS, Many youth do not know the difference between a
13 healthy, unhealthy, or abusive relationship - especially when
14 there is no physical abuse present - and are even less aware of
15 how to help peers who are affected by dating violence; and

16 WHEREAS, Common warning signs of dating abuse can include
17 extreme jealousy, explosive temper, erratic mood swings,
18 constant belittling, and isolation from family and friends; and

19 WHEREAS, Nearly half of dating college women report
20 experiencing violent and abusive dating behaviors; and

1 WHEREAS, Teen dating violence is often a difficult subject
2 to discuss for both victims and their families; and

3 WHEREAS, Organizations such as Break the Cycle and the
4 National Domestic Violence Hotline's "Loveisrespect" project
5 work to raise awareness of teen dating violence and serve as a
6 source of counseling and help for those affected; therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 recognize Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in February of
11 2017 and 2018 and support and encourage the work of individuals
12 and organizations who provide effective and essential
13 prevention programming for adolescents and offer them
14 resources, tips, and guidance on how to navigate the perils and
15 pitfalls of adolescent dating during this especially critical
16 time in their lives.