



1 received 358,774 hours of service in counseling, advocacy,  
2 support in the courts, and economic self-sufficiency support;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, A study of low-income preschoolers finds that  
5 children who have been exposed to family violence suffer  
6 symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, such as  
7 bed-wetting or nightmares, and are at greater risk than their  
8 peers of having allergies, asthma, gastrointestinal problems,  
9 headaches, and flu; children of mothers who experience prenatal  
10 physical domestic violence are at an increased risk of  
11 exhibiting aggressive, anxious, depressed, and hyperactive  
12 behavior; females who are exposed to their parents' domestic  
13 violence as adolescents are significantly more likely to become  
14 victims of dating violence than daughters of nonviolent  
15 parents; and

16 WHEREAS, Children who experience childhood trauma,  
17 including witnessing incidents of domestic violence, are at a  
18 greater risk of having serious adult health problems including  
19 tobacco use, substance abuse, obesity, cancer, heart disease,  
20 and depression; they also have a higher risk of having an  
21 unintended pregnancy; and

22 WHEREAS, Physical abuse during childhood increases the  
23 risk of future victimization among women and the risk of future

1       perpetration of abuse by men more than two-fold; and

2               WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
3       Prevention: "in the United States, one in five women have  
4       experienced completed or attempted rape"; approximately one in  
5       15 men have experienced rape, and "most victims first  
6       experienced sexual violence before age 25"; that means more  
7       than one million women and more than 400,000 men in Illinois  
8       experience sexual violence in their lifetime; and

9               WHEREAS, The FBI Crime Clock statistics in 2016 reported  
10       that a rape occurs every four minutes in the United States; and

11              WHEREAS, The Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
12       consists of 30 rape crisis centers; during the State of  
13       Illinois 2017 fiscal year, the Illinois rape crisis centers  
14       served 19,077 survivors of sexual assault, and provided 95,038  
15       hours of service to survivors, including 57,056 hours of  
16       counseling, 13,173 hours of criminal justice advocacy and 8,028  
17       hours of medical advocacy; the centers also provided 22,427  
18       hours of prevention education to 581,350 participants; and

19              WHEREAS, The CDC has declared: "Sexual violence is a very  
20       serious public health problem that affects millions of women  
21       and men"; the National Violence Against Women Prevention  
22       Research Center (NVAWPRC) reports that 31% of rape victims

1 develop PTSD; NVAWPRC also found that rape victims are 4.1  
2 times more likely than non-crime victims to have contemplated  
3 suicide and 13 times more likely to attempt suicide; and

4 WHEREAS, Victims of sexual assault are three times more  
5 likely than non-victims to experience a major depressive  
6 episode in their lives, and depression is a frequent symptom in  
7 survivors of childhood sexual abuse; and

8 WHEREAS, Research also shows that child sexual assault  
9 survivors are more likely to have pelvic pain and pelvic  
10 inflammatory disorder, breast diseases, yeast infections,  
11 bladder infections, complications of pregnancy and chronic  
12 pain, including backaches and headaches; and

13 WHEREAS, Domestic violence has become a national emergency  
14 and state agencies are overwhelmed simply trying to respond to  
15 what is happening, which leaves almost no resources or time to  
16 work toward prevention; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
18 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
19 declare domestic violence a public health priority for the  
20 State of Illinois and we urge the State to make available all  
21 necessary resources to combat this epidemic; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
2 delivered to Governor Rauner and all members of the General  
3 Assembly."