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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Sexual assault is a violent crime and has
3 devastating safety and health implications for every person in
4 Illinois, whether they are a victim, survivor, family member,
5 loved one, friend, neighbor, or co-worker of a victim; and

6 WHEREAS, The nation's largest anti-sexual violence
7 organization, Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN)
8 found that one out of every six American women has been the
9 victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault in her
10 lifetime, and one in every three American men have experienced
11 an attempted or completed sexual assault in his lifetime; and

12 WHEREAS, The Illinois Criminal Justice Information
13 Authority and the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
14 (ICASA) found that more than 37,000 victims of sexual violence
15 received services from an ICASA rape crisis center in Illinois
16 between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2015; and

17 WHEREAS, The data from ICASA shows that an average of
18 10,200 victims were served annually; 60 percent of these
19 victims were adults and 40 percent were children aged 17 years
20 or younger; and

21 WHEREAS, In addition, ICASA's rape crisis centers

1 responded to more than 42,000 requests from anonymous
2 individuals for crisis intervention service during the period
3 of 2010 through 2015, and averaged 8,500 visits per year; and

4 WHEREAS, End Violence Against Women International has
5 developed a public awareness campaign entitled "Start by
6 Believing," a message that, in part, confronts the reality that
7 many victims do not get the support they need when they do
8 report a crime; and

9 WHEREAS, It is important for the State of Illinois to
10 support this message and victims of sexual assault, so that
11 they may heal; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
14 declare April 4, 2018 as "Start by Believing Day" in the State
15 of Illinois.