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LRB101 16561 MST 65945 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a major social problem
3 in Illinois, with 34,561 indicted cases affecting children
4 statewide in 2018; according to the Children's Bureau's Child
5 Maltreatment 2017 Report, an estimated 1,720 children died as a
6 result of abuse or neglect in the United States in 2017; and

7 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 100,000 cases of
8 abuse go unreported each year; the impact of abuse on children
9 manifests itself in various ways; the affected children may
10 experience a range of emotional, psychological, and physical
11 trauma resulting from abuse or neglect; and

12 WHEREAS, There are various organizations and agencies
13 devoted to combatting this concern; such groups seek to provide
14 preventative solutions and possible exit strategies to at-risk
15 youth and victimized children; and

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

21 WHEREAS, Illinois law requires that mandated reporters,

1 including most professionals employed within education,
2 healthcare, law enforcement, and social work sectors, report
3 suspected child neglect or abuse; and

4 WHEREAS, Healthcare professionals and concerned private
5 parties continue to educate parents and raise awareness of
6 child abuse within the State; and

7 WHEREAS, Effective preventative measures concerning child
8 abuse succeed because of partnerships created between the
9 courts, social service agencies, schools, religious
10 organizations, law enforcement agencies, businesses, and
11 civilian communities; the establishment of an Illinois Child
12 Abuse Prevention Month would cohesively promote such
13 successful partnerships aiming to eradicate the social ill of
14 child abuse and neglect; and

15 WHEREAS, National Child Abuse Prevention Month promotes
16 the social and emotional well-being of children and families
17 and thus serves to acknowledge the importance of community
18 cooperation throughout the nation with respect to the
19 prevention of child abuse and neglect; the institution of an
20 Illinois Child Abuse Prevention Month would functionally
21 reiterate such principles within Illinois and would reinforce
22 Illinois' commitment to educating residents and helping
23 prevent any more children from being subjected to child abuse

1 and neglect; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we declare April 2020 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the
5 State of Illinois.