



HR0097

LRB102 11009 ECR 16341 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  
6 a 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  
14 provide preventative solutions and possible exit strategies to  
15 at-risk youth and victimized children; and

16           WHEREAS, In 1982, Congress designated June 6-12 as  
17 National Child Abuse Prevention Week; the following year,  
18 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed April to be the first  
19 National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a tradition that  
20 continues to this day; 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 SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we declare April 2021 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the  
5 State of Illinois.