



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The mission of the Illinois Coalition Against
3 Sexual Assault (ICASA) is to end sexual assault and to alleviate
4 the suffering of sexual assault victims; and

5 WHEREAS, There are thirty-three rape crisis centers in the
6 State of Illinois that each maintain membership in the Illinois
7 Coalition Against Sexual Assault; and

8 WHEREAS, Each center provides comprehensive sexual assault
9 services including a 24-hour hotline, 24-hour medical and
10 criminal justice advocacy services, in-person counseling,
11 prevention education programs, professional training,
12 information, and referrals; and

13 WHEREAS, The Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
14 sets standards for services and monitors each center to ensure
15 program and fiscal accountability; and

16 WHEREAS, Rape crisis centers are awarded State and federal
17 funds through the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Since 1982, the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual
20 Assault's budget has grown from \$148,889 to \$14 million which
21 has allowed the centers to expand counseling and advocacy
22 services to meet the needs of adult survivors of child sexual
23 abuse, children, teens, and male victims; and

24 WHEREAS, Centers have established volunteer training,
25 developed curricula for prevention education, standardized
26 professional training, and implemented protocols with
27 hospitals and law enforcement agencies; and

28 WHEREAS, The need for services from the rape crisis centers

1 continues to grow while the appropriations to the Illinois
2 Coalition For Sexual Assault have not increased in four years;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In 2002, there were 6,037 rapes reported to the
5 Illinois State Police, an increase of 418 rapes from 2001; and

6 WHEREAS, It is estimated that only three in ten rapes are
7 reported; the reality is that an estimated 20,123 rapes
8 occurred in Illinois in 2002; and

9 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2003, 10,527 adult, adolescent, and
10 child survivors of sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and
11 sexual harassment, and an additional 3,243 significant others,
12 were served by the rape crisis centers of the Illinois
13 Coalition Against Sexual Assault; and

14 WHEREAS, The total costs of rape to its victims are
15 estimated to be \$127 billion annually in the United States,
16 excluding the costs of child sexual abuse; the cost per sexual
17 assault is estimated to be \$87,000 including short-term medical
18 care, mental health services, lost productivity, and pain and
19 suffering; and

20 WHEREAS, It is in the best interest of the State of
21 Illinois and the United States to invest in sexual assault
22 prevention and counseling services; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Congress and the United States
24 Department of Justice have begun to redirect funds from sexual
25 assault prevention and counseling services to other programs
26 and initiatives; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
28 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
29 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we request the United States

1 Congress to increase appropriations to the State of Illinois
2 for sexual assault prevention and counseling services; and be
3 it further

4 RESOLVED, That we recognize the thirty-three rape crisis
5 centers in the State of Illinois for their hard work and
6 dedication serving victims of sexual assault; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented
8 to each member of the Illinois Congressional delegation, the
9 Conference of Women Legislators, and the Illinois Coalition
10 Against Sexual Assault.