

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.148

Senators Bayer, Moss, Polehanki, Brinks, Alexander, Wojno, McMorrow, Geiss, Hollier and Chang offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize October 2020 as Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month.

3 Whereas, According to the National Coalition Against Domestic
4 Violence (NCADV), Domestic Violence Awareness Month was launched
5 nationwide in October 1981 to connect and unite individuals and
6 organizations working on domestic violence issues and raise
7 awareness for those issues; and

8 Whereas, NCADV defines domestic violence as the willful
9 intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or
10 other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and
11 control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It

1 includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological
2 violence, and emotional abuse; and

3 Whereas, Domestic violence impacts individuals in every
4 community of our state regardless of age, economic status, sexual
5 orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality; and

6 Whereas, Perpetrators of domestic violence intentionally
7 engage in a pattern of behavior to exert coercive control in
8 intimate partner relationships, violating the fundamental human
9 rights of those they abuse; and

10 Whereas, According to the National Network to End Domestic
11 Violence (NNEDV), many of these dynamics of power and control are
12 rooted in gender roles and stereotypes, and conscious education and
13 action is required in order to address these ingrained inequities;
14 and

15 Whereas, The Michigan Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual
16 Violence (MCEDSV) documented, for the 2020 NNEDV National Census of
17 Domestic Violence Services, that MCEDSV member programs provided
18 counseling, advocacy, shelter, and/or other forms of support for
19 over 3,204 survivors during the 24-hour survey period, while
20 additionally providing education and training for over 313
21 individual community members across our state; and

22 Whereas, Throughout the last three decades, much progress has
23 been made to support domestic violence victims and survivors and to
24 hold abusers accountable. Continued awareness, education, and
25 action are crucial to intervention in and the prevention of
26 domestic violence; and

27 Whereas, We must work together to educate our entire
28 population about what can be done to prevent domestic violence,
29 hold perpetrators accountable, support the individual and unique

1 needs of survivors, and ensure that survivors are not re-
2 victimized; now, therefore, be it

3 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
4 body recognize October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month;
5 and be it further

6 Resolved, That we strongly support the efforts of national,
7 state, and local partners, as well as every citizen to actively
8 engage in public and private efforts to prevent domestic violence.
9 In turn, we will take appropriate action and support one another in
10 order to create a safer environment and help end domestic violence.