## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.58

Reps. Kahle and Filler offered the following resolution: 1 A resolution to declare April 2019 as Child Abuse Prevention 2 Month in the state of Michigan. 3 Whereas, Since 1983, April has been designated National Child 4 Abuse Prevention Month and has served to increase public awareness, knowledge, and understanding of the issues surrounding the abuse 5 6 and neglect of children; and 7 Whereas, Crossing all racial, economic, and geographic boundaries and including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and 8 9 physical neglect, the repercussions are long-lasting, not only for the victims and their families, but also for communities and 10 11 society as a whole; and 12 Whereas, Safe, stable, and nurturing relationships are essential to prevent child maltreatment and to assure that children 13

- 1 reach their full potential; and
- 2 Whereas, Parents and other caregivers, when supported, can
- 3 safeguard the long-term growth and well-being of children, enabling
- 4 them to contribute meaningfully to their communities in adulthood;
- 5 and
- 6 Whereas, Child abuse and neglect prevention is a most critical
- 7 issue to be addressed for the long-term prosperity of our state and
- 8 country. Effective child development is hindered by the toxic
- 9 stress produced by child abuse and neglect; and
- 10 Whereas, The stress produced by child abuse and neglect is a
- 11 significant public health problem that imposes lasting and damaging
- 12 effects on children's psychological, physical, and social health
- 13 into adulthood, affecting community growth and development; and
- 14 Whereas, Child abuse prevention organizations encourage all
- 15 individuals and organizations to play a role in making Michigan a
- 16 better place for children and families by ensuring that parents
- 17 have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for
- 18 their children; and
- 19 Whereas, Promoting family resiliency, social support systems,
- 20 nurturing and attachment, and knowledge of parenting/child
- 21 development are all known protective factors which prevent child
- 22 mistreatment and help to strengthen families; and
- 23 Whereas, The Power of One, an initiative led by the Michigan
- 24 Children's Trust Fund that asserts that one community, one person,
- 25 one dollar or one action can help protect Michigan's children from
- 26 abuse and neglect; and
- Whereas, Every individual has a role to play in the prevention
- 28 of child abuse and neglect; now, therefore, be it
- 29 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of

- 1 this legislative body declare April 2019 as Child Abuse Prevention
- 2 Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further
- 3 Resolved, That the members of this legislative body encourage
- 4 all Michiganders to work to build safe communities, promote strong
- 5 families, and raise healthy children by supporting those who are
- 6 striving to end the tragic abuse and neglect of children and allow
- 7 them to realize their own potential.