

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 322

Rep. Pohutsky offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare October 2020 as Domestic Violence
2 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, According to the National Coalition Against Domestic
4 Violence (NCADV), Domestic Violence Awareness Month was launched
5 nationwide in October 1981 as a way to connect and unite
6 individuals and organizations working on domestic violence issues
7 and raise 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
12 includes physical violence, sexual violence, psychological



1 violence, and emotional abuse; and

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

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

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

16 Whereas, While throughout the last four decades, much progress
17 has been made to support domestic violence victims and survivors
18 and to hold abusers accountable, continued awareness, education,
19 and action are crucial to intervention in and prevention of
20 domestic violence; and

21 Whereas, We must work together to educate our entire
22 population about what can be done to prevent domestic violence,
23 hold perpetrators accountable, support the individual and unique
24 needs of survivors, and ensure that survivors are not re-
25 victimized; now, therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
27 this legislative body declare October 2020 as Domestic Violence
28 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We strongly support the
29 efforts of national, state, and local partners, and every citizen

1 to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent
2 domestic violence. We will take appropriate action and support one
3 another to create a safer environment in order to help end domestic
4 violence.