



HR0849

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, In 1982, Congress designated June 6-12 as the  
3 first National Child Abuse Prevention Week; the following year,  
4 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed April to be the first  
5 National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a tradition that  
6 continues to this day; and

7           WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a major social problem  
8 in Illinois, affecting 16,000 children statewide; according to  
9 the Children's Bureau's Child Maltreatment 2015 Report, an  
10 estimated 1,670 children died as a result of abuse or neglect  
11 in the United States in 2015; and

12           WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 100,000 cases of  
13 abuse go unreported each year; the impact of abuse on children  
14 manifests itself in many ways; the affected children may  
15 experience a range of emotional, psychological, and physical  
16 problems and trauma as a result of being abused or neglected;  
17 and

18           WHEREAS, There are various organizations and agencies that  
19 devote their full-hearted efforts to combating this vicious  
20 problem and seek to provide these at-risk children with options  
21 that help prevent and relieve afflicted children from the  
22 hardship that is child neglect and abuse; and

1           WHEREAS, Organizations like the Children's Advocacy  
2 Centers of Illinois, Children's Home + Aid, and Prevent Child  
3 Abuse America have provided children and families the  
4 opportunity of healing the wounds left from the harmful results  
5 of child neglect and abuse; and

6           WHEREAS, Established in 1995, the Children's Advocacy  
7 Centers of Illinois is a network that coordinates and provides  
8 a comprehensive response to child abuse in Illinois through 37  
9 locations in the State, working closely with the Department of  
10 Children and Family Services and the Illinois Attorney  
11 General's Office; and

12           WHEREAS, Children's Home + Aid has regional offices in  
13 Bloomington, Rockford, Chicago, and Granite City; the  
14 organization is a leading child and family service agency in  
15 Illinois; each year, it protects, educates, and counsels more  
16 than 40,000 children, youth, and families in over 60 counties  
17 to help overcome the overwhelming obstacles of poverty, abuse,  
18 and neglect; and

19           WHEREAS, Founded in Chicago in 1972, Prevent Child Abuse  
20 America works to ensure the healthy development of children  
21 nationwide; the organization promotes this mission through a  
22 network of chapters in 50 states and nearly 600 Healthy

1 Families America home visiting sites in 39 states, the District  
2 of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Commonwealth of  
3 the Marianas, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands,  
4 and Canada; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois State law requires that Mandated  
6 Reporters, including most professionals in education, health  
7 care, law enforcement and social work, report suspected neglect  
8 or abuse; and

9 WHEREAS, Health care professionals and concerned  
10 individuals continue to try to educate parents and raise  
11 awareness in the community regarding emotional child abuse so  
12 as to produce a pro-active solution to the problem of child  
13 abuse and neglect; and

14 WHEREAS, The National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a  
15 time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities  
16 working together to prevent child abuse and neglect, and to  
17 promote the social and emotional well-being of children and  
18 families; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
20 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
21 designate the month of April 2018 as Child Abuse Prevention  
22 Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we encourage communities throughout the  
2 State to share child abuse and neglect prevention awareness  
3 strategies and promote prevention across the State of Illinois.