

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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## SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR SCR 2

### *"Proclaiming April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month"*

All Alaskans deserve a life free from violence. In our homes, in relationships, or in our communities, every individual should live a life without fear and with security and safety. This resolution encourages Alaskans to acknowledge and speak out against sexual assault as we join in unity to dispel the fear, self-blame, depression and anxiety that can be exhibited both emotionally and physically by those who have endured this terrible experience. This resolution emboldens Alaskans to declare that sexual assault of any kind will not be accepted.

SCR 2 also recognizes the dedicated work in Alaska of the volunteers, staff and agencies, who dedicate their lives to ensure victims have someone to talk to, a place to go, as well as many other services to help. These individuals and groups deserve our respect and support and we join them in removing the veil of secrecy and silence, and declare intolerance towards the crime of sexual assault in Alaska.

SCR 2 proclaims the month of April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Alaska.