

# STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

## 2014

**Source**  
HCR 21

**Legislative  
Resolve No.**  
36



Proclaiming April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

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### **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**WHEREAS**, in fiscal year 2013, the Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Children's Services, received more than 40,000 reports of harm involving tens of thousands of children; and

**WHEREAS**, of the 40,000 reports of harm received in 2013, 5,000 were substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect equating to an average of 13 children a day who were abused or neglected in the state in 2013; and

**WHEREAS** more than 2,000 children in the state reside in foster homes; and

**WHEREAS** child abuse and neglect leave cross-generational damage resulting in approximately 30 percent of abused or neglected children who will grow up to abuse or neglect their children; and

**WHEREAS** 37 percent of all women in prison and 14 percent of all men in prison were abused or neglected as children; and

**WHEREAS** the long-term effects of child abuse include improper brain formation, an inability to trust, low self-esteem, and an increased vulnerability to post-traumatic stress

disorder, sexually transmitted diseases, heart disease, cancer, and depression; and

**WHEREAS** every child deserves a loving family, a safe home, and the opportunity to grow into an upstanding and responsible member of society; and

**WHEREAS** we must work together to support the efforts of all those who take children into their homes and hearts because the community as a whole suffers in every case of child abuse and neglect;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims April 2014 to be Child Abuse Prevention Month in the state; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature supports and encourages the residents of the state to support child abuse prevention and education efforts.