

Alaska Women's Lobby

Defending and advancing the rights and needs of women, children and families in Alaska since 1981

SCR 17 and HCR 22- Sexual Assault Awareness Month February 2018

The Alaska Women's Lobby, with steering committees in Fairbanks and Juneau as well as members across the state supports SCR 17 and thanks Senator Meyer for his sponsorship.

SCR 17 declares April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). This year, nationally, SAAM is celebrating its 17th anniversary with the theme "Embrace Your Voice" to inform individuals on how they can use their words to promote safety, respect, and equality to stop sexual violence before it happens.

We know that one month isn't enough to solve the serious and widespread issue of sexual violence. However, the attention April generates is an opportunity to energize and expand prevention efforts throughout the year.

What is Sexual Violence? Sexual violence is a broad term and includes: sexual assault, incest, child sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual exploitation, human trafficking, unwanted sexual contact, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism.

Sexual violence occurs when someone is forced or manipulated into unwanted sexual activity without their consent. Consent means permission for something to happen or agreement to do something.

Anyone can experience sexual violence, including children, teens, adults, and seniors. Those who sexually abuse can be acquaintances, family, trusted individuals, or strangers; of these, the first three are most common.

The good news is that prevention is possible, and it's happening. Across Alaska youth are participating in Coaching Boys into Men, Girls on the Run, and learning about healthy relationships through the 4th R.

The resolutions give focused attention to sexual assault crimes and the ways in which Alaskan can prevent them.

Please support the passage of SCR 17 and HCR 22.

PO Box 20891, Juneau, AK 99802 * akwomenslobby@gmail.com