

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE

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Explanation of Changes

Senate Concurrent Resolution 2 – April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month

The Rules Committee substitute for SCR2, April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, expands the resolution to include information and resolved clauses relating to another destructive evil in Alaska: the abuse and neglect of children. The rationale for this expansion is to increase awareness of sexual assault, child abuse, and child neglect, especially during April, and to show commitment by the 30th Alaska State Legislature to prevent these wrongs whenever possible.

The committee substitute makes the following changes:

- Adds whereases stating
 - the rates and the number of incidents of child abuse in Alaska;
 - the number of Alaskan children removed from unsafe homes and placed into foster care;
 - the societal impacts of child abuse and neglect, including the rates of those abused or neglected as children who will abuse or neglect their children, go to prison, and be involved in criminal activity;
 - the long-term effects of child abuse on individuals; and
 - the moral imperative to prevent child abuse and support the efforts of those who care for abused and neglected children;
- Adds resolves stating that the Alaska State Legislature
 - proclaims April 2017 and April 2018 to be “Child Abuse Prevention Month” in the state;
 - proclaims April 7, 2017 and April 6, 2018 as “Go Blue Friday”, a day to wear blue, the official color of prevention; and
 - supports and encourages all state employees and residents of the state to support child abuse prevention and education efforts.