

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 1637

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2010 and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs and practices designed to prevent and end domestic violence.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAHLKEMPER, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. POMEROY, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SPRATT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CONAWAY, and Mr. PAULSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2010 and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities, and support programs and practices designed to prevent and end domestic violence.

Whereas domestic violence affects people of all ages as well as racial, ethnic, gender, economic, and religious backgrounds;

Whereas females are disproportionately victims of domestic violence;

Whereas 6 in 10 Native American women will be physically assaulted in their lifetimes;

Whereas on average, more than 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in the United States every day;

Whereas approximately 40 to 60 percent of men who abuse women also abuse children;

Whereas approximately 15,500,000 children are exposed to domestic violence every year;

Whereas children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, and engage in teenage prostitution;

Whereas a large study found that men exposed to physical abuse, sexual abuse, and adult domestic violence as children were almost 4 times more likely than other men to have perpetrated domestic violence as adults;

Whereas women ages 16 to 24 experience the highest rates, per capita, of intimate partner violence;

Whereas approximately 1 in 3 adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth;

Whereas teen girls who are physically and sexually abused are up to 6 times more likely to become pregnant, and

more than 2 times as likely to report a sexually transmitted disease, than teen girls who are not abused;

Whereas 1,500,000 high school students nationwide experienced physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year;

Whereas young people who are physically abused perform worse in school, 20 percent received mostly D's and F's;

Whereas adolescent girls who reported dating violence were 60 percent more likely to report one or more suicide attempts in the past year;

Whereas primary prevention programs are a key part of addressing teen dating violence, and many successful community examples include education, community outreach, and social marketing campaigns that account for the cultural appropriateness of programs;

Whereas there is a need for middle schools, secondary schools, and post-secondary schools to educate students about the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking;

Whereas one-quarter to one-half of domestic violence victims report that they have lost a job due, at least in part, to domestic violence;

Whereas the annual cost of lost productivity due to domestic violence is estimated at \$727,800,000 with over 7,900,000 paid workdays lost per year;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2003, the costs of intimate partner violence exceed \$8,300,000,000 and \$1,200,000,000 in the value of lost lives;

Whereas research shows that intimate partner violence costs a health plan \$19,300,000 each year for every 100,000 women between ages 18 to 64 enrolled;

Whereas even 5 years after the abuse has ended, health care costs of women with a history of intimate partner violence remain 20 percent higher than those for women with no history of violence;

Whereas in addition to the immediate trauma caused by abuse, domestic violence contributes to a number of chronic health problems, including depression, alcohol, substance abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and often limits the ability of women to manage other chronic illnesses such as diabetes and hypertension;

Whereas although doctors and nurses routinely screen for high blood pressure and high cholesterol, too few assess for domestic violence and the burden on health care costs would be reduced if routine assessment and intervention for domestic violence was part of a preventative health care strategy;

Whereas men are the perpetrators in at least 85 percent of domestic violence cases and prevention programs must be expanded to address their needs;

Whereas 88 percent of men in a national poll reported that they think that society should do more to respect women and girls;

Whereas research demonstrates that men are willing to help prevent violence against women, particularly through shaping the attitudes of younger men and boys;

Whereas a multi-State study shows conclusively that the Nation's domestic violence shelters are addressing victims'

urgent and long-term needs and are helping victims protect themselves and their children;

Whereas there is a need to increase funding for programs aimed at intervening and preventing domestic violence in the United States;

Whereas individuals and organizations that are dedicated to preventing and ending domestic violence should be recognized; and

Whereas Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day (HCADV Day) is celebrated on the second Wednesday of October: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That—

2           (1) the House of Representatives—

3               (A) supports the goals and ideals of Na-  
4               tional Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

5               (B) recognizes Health Cares About Domes-  
6               tic Violence Day (HCADV Day) as an aware-  
7               ness-raising day to reach members of the health  
8               care community and educate them about the  
9               critical importance of assessing for domestic vi-  
10              olence, as well as the long-term health implica-  
11              tions of domestic violence and lifetime exposure  
12              to violence; and

13           (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-  
14           tives that Congress should continue to raise aware-  
15           ness of domestic violence in the United States and  
16           its devastating effects on families and communities,

- 1 and support programs designed to end domestic vio-
- 2 lence.

