

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 46

Raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking by establishing
January 2009 as “National Stalking Awareness Month”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. MARCHANT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking
by establishing January 2009 as “National Stalking
Awareness Month”.

Whereas an estimated 1,006,970 women and 370,990 men
are stalked annually in the United States and, in the ma-
jority of such cases, the person is stalked by someone
who is not a stranger;

Whereas 81 percent of women, who are stalked by an inti-
mate partner, are also physically assaulted by that part-
ner, and 76 percent of women, who are killed by an inti-
mate partner, were also stalked by that intimate partner;

Whereas 74.2 percent of stalking victims reported that the
stalking partner interfered with their employment, 26

percent of stalking victims lose time from work as a result of their victimization, and 7 percent never return to work;

Whereas stalking victims are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, such as relocating, changing their addresses, changing their identities, changing jobs, and obtaining protection orders;

Whereas stalking is a crime that cuts across race, culture, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas stalking is a crime under Federal law and under the laws of all 50 States and the District of Columbia;

Whereas rapid advancements in technology have made cyber-surveillance the new frontier in stalking;

Whereas there are national organizations, local victim service organizations, prosecutors' offices, and police departments that stand ready to assist stalking victims and who are working diligently to craft competent, thorough, and innovative responses to stalking;

Whereas there is a need to enhance the criminal justice system's response to stalking and stalking victims, including aggressive investigation and prosecution; and

Whereas the House of Representatives urges the establishment of January 2009 as National Stalking Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
3 tives that—

1 (A) National Stalking Awareness Month
2 provides an opportunity to educate the people of
3 the United States about stalking;

4 (B) all Americans should applaud the ef-
5 forts of the many victim service providers, po-
6 lice, prosecutors, national and community orga-
7 nizations, and private sector supporters for
8 their efforts in promoting awareness about
9 stalking; and

10 (C) policymakers, criminal justice officials,
11 victim service and human service agencies, non-
12 profits, and others should recognize the need to
13 increase awareness of stalking and the avail-
14 ability of services for stalking victims; and

15 (2) the House of Representatives urges national
16 and community organizations, businesses in the pri-
17 vate sector, and the media to promote awareness of
18 the crime of stalking through National Stalking
19 Awareness Month.

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