

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 41

Raising awareness and encouraging the prevention of stalking by designating
January 2017 as “National Stalking Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. PERDUE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAPO, and
Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was consid-
ered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Raising awareness and encouraging the prevention of stalking
by designating January 2017 as “National Stalking
Awareness Month”.

Whereas approximately 15 percent of women in the United
States, at some point during their lifetimes, have experi-
enced stalking victimization, during which the women felt
very fearful or believed that they or someone close to
them would be harmed or killed;

Whereas, during a 1-year period, an estimated 7,500,000 in-
dividuals in the United States reported that they had
been victims of stalking;

Whereas more than 80 percent of victims of stalking reported
that they had been stalked by someone they knew;

Whereas 11 percent of victims of stalking reported having been stalked for more than 5 years;

Whereas two-thirds of stalkers pursue their victims at least once a week;

Whereas victims of stalking are forced to take drastic measures to protect themselves, including changing their identities, relocating, changing jobs, or obtaining protection orders;

Whereas the prevalence of anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction, and severe depression is much higher among victims of stalking than the general population;

Whereas many victims of stalking do not report stalking to the police or contact a victim service provider, shelter, or hotline;

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

Whereas stalking affects victims of every race, age, culture, gender, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, and economic status;

Whereas national organizations, local victim service organizations, campuses, prosecutor's offices, and police departments stand ready to assist victims of stalking and are working diligently to develop effective and innovative responses to stalking;

Whereas there is a need to improve the response of the criminal justice system to stalking through more aggressive investigation and prosecution;

Whereas there is a need for an increase in the availability of victim services across the United States, and the services

must include programs tailored to meet the needs of victims of stalking;

Whereas individuals 18 to 24 years old experience the highest rates of stalking victimization, and rates of stalking among college students exceed rates of stalking among the general population;

Whereas up to 75 percent of women in college who experience behavior relating to stalking experience other forms of victimization, including sexual or physical victimization;

Whereas there is a need for an effective response to stalking on each campus; and

Whereas the Senate finds that “National Stalking Awareness Month” provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about stalking: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates January 2017 as “National
3 Stalking Awareness Month”;

4 (2) applauds the efforts of service providers for
5 victims of stalking, police, prosecutors, national and
6 community organizations, campuses, and private sec-
7 tor supporters to promote awareness of stalking;

8 (3) encourages policymakers, criminal justice
9 officials, victim service and human service agencies,
10 institutions of higher education, and nonprofit orga-
11 nizations to increase awareness of stalking and the
12 availability of services for victims of stalking; and

13 (4) urges national and community organiza-
14 tions, businesses in the private sector, and the media

- 1 to promote awareness of the crime of stalking
- 2 through “National Stalking Awareness Month”.

