

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY SENATOR MORRELL AND REPRESENTATIVE MORENO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate April 16, 2014, as "Purple and Teal Day" at the Louisiana State Capitol and to recognize the efforts of the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the social need to address the issue of domestic violence that primarily is directed against women; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence, sexual assault, and dating violence are serious crimes that affect persons indiscriminate of race, age, gender, or economic status; these infractions often go unreported to law enforcement authorities and without medical attention afforded to its victims; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a national topic of concern that affects 1.3 million Americans annually; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence often manifests itself as physical injury to the victim by an intimate partner, yet psychological trauma may also be heaped on the victim through either domination behaviors, intimidation, emotional abuse, or stalking; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, women murdered in domestic violence homicides occur at a rate forty percent higher than the national average and often involve a firearm; and

WHEREAS, these acts of violence assail an individual's right to privacy, dignity, security, and humanity; and

WHEREAS, another disturbing statistic is that children witness the domestic abuse firsthand or are often victims of abuse during the altercation; they become collateral damage in violent home environments; they often become adults who abuse or become subjugated victims themselves and the cycle of degradation continues unabated; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a statewide coalition of shelters, nonresidential programs, and individuals who work together to deter domestic violence behavior; and

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault is another organization that has provided sexual assault crisis centers throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2014, these two groups will host the Purple and Teal Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and at that time disseminate information to help reduce the incidence of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Purple and Teal Day creates an excellent opportunity to inform the public about the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault and to support the numerous organizations that provide critical advocacy and assistance for victims and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate April 16, 2014, as "Purple and Teal Day" at the Louisiana State Capitol and does hereby recognize the efforts of the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault to reduce violent behavior within the home environment and society as a whole.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ashley Chretien, public policy coordinator for the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES