

Reps. Faris, Dianda, Ellison, Sneller, Wittenberg, Brinks, Geiss, Singh, Love, Chirkun, Clemente, Liberati, Maturen, Sabo, Schor and Sowerby offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 156.

A resolution to declare September 26, 2017, as Youth Consent Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, One in five women, at least 6% of men, and over 40% of members of the LGBT community enrolled in a Michigan college or university will be sexually assaulted during their time as a student; and

Whereas, Forty-eight percent of middle and high school students between the ages of 12 and 18 reported being sexually harassed at school, and

Whereas, An estimated 80% of sexual assaults are not reported when the victim is a college-age female student; and

Whereas, Young female victims of nonconsensual sexual acts are more likely to experience depression, PTSD, self-blame, and alcohol and/or drug abuse; and

Whereas, Despite the existence of nationwide sexual assault prevention programs and passage of The Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (SaVE) Act by Congress, there is no Michigan-specific awareness day or campaign focusing on the issue and importance of consent; and

Whereas, Sexual assault education among undergraduates has been shown to increase bystander intervention to prevent sexual assault, improve outcomes for individuals at risk, and increase opposition to rape; and

Whereas, Approximately 25.3% of rapes occur due to a personal matter and the closer the relationship between the female victim and the offender, the less likely the rape will be reported; and

Whereas, Almost 67% of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim; and

Whereas, Sexual assaults on college campuses are most likely to occur during the first three months of the school year and in Michigan, nonconsensual sexual activity is equivalent to sexual assault; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare September 26, 2017, as Youth Consent Day in the state of Michigan.