

Reps. Price, Barnett, Bauer, Brown, Constan, Darany, Durhal, Goike, Horn, Knollenberg, Liss, Poleski, Segal, Slavens and Tyler offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 226.**

A resolution to declare April 2012 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Since 1983, April has been designated National Child Abuse Prevention Month and has served to increase public awareness of the need to ensure the safety and welfare of children; and

Whereas, Crossing all racial, economic and geographic boundaries and including physical, sexual and emotional abuse and physical neglect, the repercussions are long-lasting, not only for the victims and their families but also for communities and society as a whole; and

Whereas, Nationally, in 2009, an estimated 2.9 million children received a protective services investigation at an expense of at least \$103.8 billion annually, costing the average American family \$942 each year; and

Whereas, In Michigan during that same period, there were 71,780 complaints of suspected child abuse and neglect, with a parent as the perpetrator in approximately 79 percent of the cases; and

Whereas, A focus on promoting the Protective Factors, including building parent resiliency, providing social supports and educating about child development will help build and strengthen positive relationships between parents/caregivers and the children in their care; and

Whereas, *The Power of One*, an initiative led by the Michigan Children's Trust Fund that asserts that one community, one person, one dollar or one action can help protect Michigan's children from abuse and neglect; and

Whereas, We recognize that no one person can do everything, but that everyone can do something, and together we can create change for the better; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare April 2012 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That the members of this legislative body encourage all Michiganders to work to build safe communities, promote strong families and raise healthy children by supporting those who are striving to end the tragic abuse and neglect of children and allow them to realize their full potential.