

Senators Warren and Schuitmaker offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 168.**

A resolution to commemorate April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community; and

Whereas, Sexual assault is broadly defined as any form of unwanted sexual contact without consent through the use of force, threat of force, intimidation, or coercion; and

Whereas, Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our communities, as seen by statistics indicating that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

Whereas, Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that 1 in 6 boys and 1 in 4 girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18; and

Whereas, Michigan State Police statistics indicate that 11,873 sexual assault-related offenses were reported to law enforcement in 2013; and

Whereas, Sexual violence can deeply and enduringly impact survivors on psychological, emotional, and social levels; and

Whereas, Access to informed and supportive services can greatly increase survivors' ability to heal from sexual assault; and

Whereas, Our state and individual communities must be committed to hold sexual assault perpetrators accountable for their heinous crimes; and

Whereas, We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body commemorate April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.