

Senators Schuitmaker and Warren offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 169.

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

Whereas, Campus sexual violence is a prevalent and serious public health concern, and according to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 1 in 5 women and 1 in 16 men will be sexually assaulted in college; and

Whereas, A survey by the Association of American Universities found that 26 percent of female college seniors reported experiencing unwanted sexual contact; and

Whereas, A report by the U.S. Department of Justice discovered that only 20 percent of female student survivors age 18-24 reported offenses to law enforcement; and

Whereas, The long-term effects of sexual assault can impact students in a variety of ways, including physically, mentally, and academically; and

Whereas, Colleges and universities are in a unique position to help create and foster an environment where sexual abuse is intolerable and prevention is a priority; and

Whereas, Effective strategies can help address the root causes of sexual violence, and a change in culture is crucial to ending campus sexual assault; and

Whereas, We must work with our colleges and universities to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support survivors, and ensure that survivors are not re-victimized; and

Whereas, When we actively increase education, awareness, and community involvement, we can help prevent sexual violence and create a safer environment for everyone; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body commemorate April 2016 as Campus Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That we strongly support the efforts of national, state, and local partners and every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence on college campuses. We will also take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for students, faculty, staff, and surrounding communities.