By: Wise H.C.R. No. 203

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Approximately 1.9 million Texans have been the 2 victim of sexual assault, and the rate at which this crime is 3 committed in Texas is growing; and

WHEREAS, Many Texans have dedicated their lives to ending sexual violence in this state; their work ranges from offering assistance to victims and advocating for survivors to educating about prevention and striving to raise public awareness of this crime, its effects, and the importance of its eradication; and

WHEREAS, Each year, the month of April provides an opportunity for the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) and rape crisis centers across the state to renew their commitment to prevention and healing; during this period, educational efforts are intensified in order to inform Texans about the sexual assault services available in their area; and

WHEREAS, TAASA's goal is to ensure that Texas is responsive to the victims of sexual abuse and assault and that the state is committed to ending sexual violence; the theme for this year, Texas: A No Rape State, reflects the ideal of a state that is intolerant of sexual violence in any form; the theme promotes a proactive approach toward ending sexual assault by educating and mobilizing Texans on every front; and

WHEREAS, The safety of Texans tomorrow depends on our vigilance against sexual assault today, and the efforts of all those working to eliminate this crime in the Lone Star State are to

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- 1 be heartily commended; now, therefore, be it
- 2 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
- 3 hereby designate April 2003 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in
- 4 Texas and encourage all Texans to learn how they can prevent sexual
- 5 assault and all other forms of violence in communities across this
- 6 great state.