

By: Parker

H.R. No. 1144

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Children are essential to the continued prosperity
2 and vitality of the Lone Star State, and the observance of National
3 Child Abuse Prevention Month in April 2019 serves as an opportunity
4 to focus public attention on the importance of protecting the most
5 vulnerable members of our society; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 66,000 cases of child abuse and neglect
7 were confirmed in Texas in 2018, and 20,681 children were removed
8 from their homes as a result of this treatment; tragically, 211
9 children lost their lives due to abuse and neglect last year, and
10 many of these victims were three years old or younger; and

11 WHEREAS, The short-term and long-term costs of child abuse
12 are substantial; in 2018, the cost to address child maltreatment in
13 Texas totaled more than \$55 billion; these expenses included
14 medical treatment, foster care, law enforcement, mental health
15 care, and special education, as well as the financial toll caused by
16 juvenile delinquency and lost productivity; and

17 WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect also carry enormous
18 emotional and societal costs, as many victims suffer from mental
19 illness, substance abuse, developmental delays, teen pregnancy,
20 academic underachievement, criminal behavior, unemployment,
21 poverty, and chronic disease; and

22 WHEREAS, Every child deserves to grow up in a secure, stable,
23 and nurturing home, and it is the responsibility of all Texans to
24 help ensure the safety and well-being of children in the Lone Star

1 State; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
3 Legislature hereby recognize April 2019 as National Child Abuse
4 Prevention Month in Texas and encourage all citizens to work
5 together to protect the welfare of children throughout the state;
6 and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
8 prepared for TexProtects as an expression of high regard by the
9 Texas House of Representatives.