H.C.R. No. 8

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Domestic violence inflicts a heavy toll of physical, 2 emotional, and psychological damage in our communities, and the 3 observance of Domestic Violence Survivors' Day serves as an 4 opportunity to show support for those who are rebuilding their 5 lives after suffering abuse; and

6 WHEREAS, According to a survey published by the Centers for 7 Disease Control and Prevention, one in every four women and one in 8 every nine men have experienced some form of severe domestic 9 violence, including physical violence, sexual violence, or 10 stalking, and such incidents account for 15 percent of all violent 11 crime; moreover, domestic violence is linked to higher rates of 12 depression and suicidal behavior; and

WHEREAS, Domestic abuse can go beyond physical assault to encompass psychological, emotional, and sexual abuse; the CDC survey found that nearly half of all adults in the United States have experienced psychologically aggressive behavior by an intimate partner, and abusive and controlling behaviors often escalate over time; and

WHEREAS, The effort to focus greater public attention on this urgent health care issue has extended over several decades; the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence held the initial Day of Unity observance in October 1981, and the scope of the event expanded in the years that followed; Domestic Violence Awareness Month was first recognized in October 1987, and that same year the

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1 first national toll-free hotline for victims of domestic violence 2 was established; Congress officially designated the month in 1989; 3 and

WHEREAS, These observances help to unite advocates in their efforts to end domestic violence and to educate the public and policymakers about its prevalence and its devastating impact; perhaps most importantly, the events serve as a means to tell the stories of those who have experienced abuse, to share the inspiring narratives of survivors, and to provide support to those who are in the process of healing; now, therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, That the 87th Legislature of the State of Texas, 12 3rd Called Session, hereby designate the third Monday in October as 13 Domestic Violence Survivors' Day; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally passed by the legislature.

> Hull Swanson Noble Morrison Slawson Button Klick

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President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 8 was adopted by the House on October 17, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 8 was adopted by the Senate on October 18, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor