



SPONSOR: Sen. Richardson & Sen. Gay & Rep. Briggs King
Sens. Bonini, Lawson, Pettyjohn, Sokola; Reps.
Baumbach, Bush, Dorsey Walker, Heffernan, Hensley,
D. Short, Michael Smith

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 85

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2022 AS "CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, an estimated 700,000 children are abused and neglected in the United States annually; and

2 WHEREAS, for 2020, Child Protective Services (CPS) agencies received a national estimate of 3.9 million total
3 referrals alleging maltreatment that included approximately 7.1 million children; and

4 WHEREAS, for 2020, a national estimate of 1,750 children died from abuse and neglect at a rate of 2.38 per
5 100,000 children in the population; and

6 WHEREAS, the youngest children are the most vulnerable to maltreatment, with 46.4 percent of child fatalities
7 younger than 1 year old and who died at a rate of 23.03 per 100,000 children in the population of the same age; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2020, Delaware received 21,138 hotline reports, 20,599 family and 539 institutional abuse reports;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, in 2020, 35% of the reports Delaware received met the criteria for an investigation or assessment; and

11 WHEREAS, the prevention of child abuse is a matter of concern to citizens, state agencies, and community
12 organizations in Delaware; and

13 WHEREAS, collaborative partnerships among various groups can help make child abuse prevention programs
14 successful; and

15 WHEREAS, all citizens of the State should encourage parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing
16 environment and support programs designed to help prevent child abuse; and

17 WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, most schools transitioned to virtual classrooms making it difficult
18 for the largest group of child abuse and neglect reporters, education personnel, to observe suspected maltreatment and
19 submit maltreatment allegations.

20 NOW, THEREFORE:

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 151st General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
22 Representatives concurring therein, that the month of April 2022 is designated as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in the
23 State of Delaware.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all citizens, community organizations, state and local agencies, religious
25 organizations, businesses, and medical facilities are called upon to support efforts to prevent child abuse.

SYNOPSIS

This Resolution recognizes April 2022 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" in the State of Delaware.

Author: Senator Richardson