

By: Senator K. Hammer

## **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT  
PREVENTION MONTH.

### **Subtitle**

TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE AND  
NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH.

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of Arkansas communities, and finding solutions requires action from everyone in our communities; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resource and will shape the future of our state; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that can have lifelong consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the meaningful connections and partnerships created between child welfare, education, health, community and faith-based organizations, businesses, and law enforcement agencies; and



WHEREAS, prevention of child abuse and maltreatment remains Arkansas's goal for our children and families; and

WHEREAS, communities are encouraged to promote programs and activities that benefit children and their families; and

WHEREAS, it is important to work together to increase awareness about child abuse and support the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, child advocacy centers were formed to provide a safe, child-friendly environment where a comprehensive and coordinated approach is taken to allegations of child abuse; and

WHEREAS, the specially trained individuals who staff child advocacy centers assist and advocate for the child throughout the entire process; and

WHEREAS, during the process, the child advocacy center staff works as part of a multi-disciplinary team that includes the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Human Services, local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, mental health professionals, and other state and local agencies,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognize April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month, and encourage citizens, community agencies, faith-based organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in supporting families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening Arkansas communities.