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Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office  
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CLERK'S OFFICE  
APPROVED

Date: 3-27-12

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
AR NO. 2012-89

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING APRIL 2012 AS SEXUAL**  
2 **ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH AND ENCOURAGING THE RESIDENTS OF ANCHORAGE TO SUPPORT**  
3 **COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO RAISE AWARENESS AND WORK TOGETHER TO ELIMINATE SEXUAL**  
4 **ASSAULT CRIMES IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

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6 WHEREAS, Governor Parnell has identified three keys to stop the epidemic of domestic violence and  
7 sexual assault in Alaska: "First, we'll beef-up law enforcement and enforce tougher prosecution. Second, we  
8 will protect survivors and help them heal. Third, we will focus on prevention and education"; and

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10 WHEREAS, in 2009 Governor Parnell pledged his administration to take every step necessary to stop  
11 the epidemic of domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska and since that pledge, he has signed into law  
12 the following legislation:

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- 15 • HB 127 - Related to sexual exploitation of children, domestic violence, and stalking;
  - 16 • SB 222 - Sentencing in crimes involving sexual assault and domestic violence;
  - 17 • HB 324 - Revises bail laws to reflect defendants accused of serious crimes such as felony sexual  
18 assault are a danger to the community and to the victims;
  - 19 • SB 110 - Procedures for DNA retention in murder and sexual assault cases; and

20 WHEREAS, the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) is a non-profit  
21 state-wide network, legal advocacy project, and *pro bono* program linking together individuals and community-  
22 based service providers to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, ANDVSA, in its 2010 *Alaska Summary of Core Victim Services*, reports that 18 out of 18  
25 (100%), of identified domestic violence programs in Alaska participated in the 2010 National Census of  
26 Domestic Violence Services, which recorded services provided during the 24-hour survey period. Together,  
27 these Alaska programs:

28  
29 **Served 467 Victims in One Day**, providing:

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- 31 • 307 victims with refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing;
  - 32 • 160 victims with non-residential assistance and services including counseling, legal advocacy and  
33 children's support groups;
  - 34 • 80 hotline callers with support, information, safety planning and resources;
  - 35 • 353 individuals with education in prevention and education training; and

36 WHEREAS, the State of Alaska, Department of Public Safety, Council on Domestic Violence Sexual  
37 Assault (CDVSA) in its *2011 Year in Review* reports these statistics:

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- 39 • Over \$10.8 Million to community-based nonprofit programs to provide safe shelter, advocacy, & support  
40 to victims, and community education & awareness to reduce tolerance for these crimes;
  - 41 • 95,413 nights of safe shelter provided for 2,240 adults and 1,594 children;
  - 42 • Over 200 staff members kept programs open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to ensure safe refuge and  
43 help their communities develop strategies for creating peace;
  - 44 • 3,533 people volunteered 95,698 hours: 58% more people & 75% more hours than 2010; and

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46 WHEREAS, along with Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC), the Alaska Native Justice Center  
47 (ANJC) provides advocacy and attorney representation for Native & non-Native victims of sexual assault and  
48 domestic violence; and  
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1 WHEREAS, at noon on March 29, 2012, Governor Parnell will lead non-profits, legislators, stakeholders,  
2 and community members in a *Choose Respect March* from the steps of the capitol building in Juneau and  
3 proclaim April 2012 as *Sexual Assault Awareness Month* in Alaska; and  
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5 WHEREAS, at noon on March 29, 2012, Anchorage residents will join more than 100 communities  
6 across Alaska by holding a local *Choose Respect March* -- Gathering at Delaney Park Strip (9<sup>th</sup> and F) and  
7 marching to Town Square Park to promote a cultural shift towards honor and respect for all Alaskans and  
8 intolerance of domestic violence and sexual assault; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, Abused Women's Aid In Crisis (AWAIC), Standing Together Against Rape (STAR), ALSC  
11 and ANJC support the *Choose Respect March* and these other events scheduled in April for *Sexual Assault*  
12 *Awareness Month*:  
13


- 14 April 10<sup>th</sup> *Take Back the Night Speak-out* at Tap Root Anchorage from 6-8 pm;
- 15 April 27<sup>th</sup> *Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Fundraiser* at University Mall Anchorage at 12 pm;
- 16 April 27<sup>th</sup> *Uncorked Wine Tasting Fundraiser* at the AK Center for Performing Arts at 7 pm;

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18 NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly honors the volunteers, staff, stakeholders,  
19 non-profits, Alaska Native organizations, *pro bono* legal advocacy programs, lawmakers, community members,  
20 and government officials who are networking to meet the challenges of sexual assault and domestic violence,  
21 and recognizes April 2012 as  
22

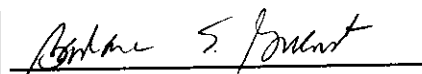
23 **"SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH".**

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25 Anchorage residents and visitors are encouraged to *Choose Respect* and step up to the challenge of stopping  
26 crimes of sexual assault in our community.  
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28 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2012.  
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31 Chair  
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33 ATTEST:  
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37 Municipal Clerk  
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