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# SENATE RESOLUTION

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DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK IN FEBRUARY 2010 AS HAWAII TEEN  
DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK.

1 WHEREAS, one in three female teenagers in a dating  
2 relationship has feared for her physical safety when with a  
3 partner; and  
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5 WHEREAS, one in two teenagers in a serious relationship  
6 reports having compromised personal beliefs to please a partner;  
7 and  
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9 WHEREAS, one in five teenagers in a serious relationship  
10 reports having been hit, slapped, or pushed by a partner; and  
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12 WHEREAS, twenty-seven per cent of teenagers have been in  
13 dating relationships in which their partners have called them  
14 names or "put them down"; and  
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16 WHEREAS, twenty-nine per cent of girls who have been in a  
17 relationship report having been pressured to have sex or to  
18 engage in sexual activities that they did not want; and  
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20 WHEREAS, technologies such as cell phones and the Internet  
21 have made dating abuse both more pervasive and more hidden; and  
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23 WHEREAS, thirty per cent of teenagers who have been in a  
24 dating relationship say they have been text-messed between ten  
25 and thirty times per hour by a partner seeking to determine  
26 their whereabouts, what they are doing, or whom they are with;  
27 and  
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29 WHEREAS, seventy-two per cent of teenagers who reported  
30 that they had been checked on by a boyfriend or girlfriend ten  
31 times or more per hour by email or text message did not tell  
32 their parents; and  
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34 WHEREAS, parents are largely unaware of cell phone and  
35 internet harassment experienced by teenagers; and  
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1 WHEREAS, involvement in violent relationships during the  
2 adolescent years can have serious ramifications for victims,  
3 putting them at higher risk for substance abuse, eating  
4 disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-  
5 victimization; and

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7 WHEREAS, the severity of violence between intimate partners  
8 has been observed to be greater in cases in which a pattern of  
9 violence has been established in adolescence; and

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11 WHEREAS, the establishment of "Hawaii Teen Dating Violence  
12 Awareness and Prevention Week" will benefit schools,  
13 communities, and families regardless of socioeconomic status,  
14 race, or sex; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,  
18 that the first week in February 2010 is hereby designated as  
19 "Hawaii Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week"; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature call upon the  
22 people of Hawaii, high schools, law enforcement personnel, state  
23 and local officials, and interested groups to observe "Hawaii  
24 Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Week" with  
25 appropriate programs and activities that promote awareness and  
26 encourage prevention of teen dating violence in their  
27 communities; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,  
31 Superintendent of Education, President of the University of  
32 Hawaii at Manoa, Attorney General, the mayor of each county, and  
33 the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against  
34 Domestic Violence.