

1 A RESOLUTION recognizing October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness
2 Month in Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, Kentuckians deserve to live in a Commonwealth where all individuals,
4 families, and communities have the freedom and resources to live in safety and thrive;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, domestic violence and dating violence not only severely impact the
7 lives of victims, but also result in an economic cost to communities over victims'
8 lifetimes of approximately \$3.6 trillion, arising from medical services related to domestic
9 and dating violence, lost productivity and wages, utilization of the criminal justice
10 system, expenses, and other costs; and

11 WHEREAS, approximately one in five homicides occur at the hands of an intimate
12 partner, and over one-half of female homicide victims in the United States are killed by a
13 current or former male intimate partner; and

14 WHEREAS, the Kentucky Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center reported 27
15 Kentuckians lost their lives to domestic violence in 2022, with an additional 27 charges
16 of attempted homicide arising from domestic violence being filed in Kentucky courts;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, over the past five years, Kentucky's 15 state-funded domestic violence
19 shelter programs have housed over 10,000 adults and 6,000 children and provided
20 nonresidential services to an additional 72,000 Kentuckians; and

21 WHEREAS, domestic and dating violence is motivated by power and control and is
22 perpetuated by a complex range of abuse tactics, including but not limited to physical,
23 verbal, emotional, and financial abuse; stalking and intimidation; and sabotage of career
24 and education; and

25 WHEREAS, these abuse tactics lead to housing and job instability, homelessness,
26 negative impacts on workforce participation, serious health issues, high medical debt,
27 poor credit ratings arising from financial exploitation, and additional challenges that keep

1 survivors of domestic violence and dating violence from being able to meet their basic
2 needs and the needs of their children; and

3 WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence can experience long-term
4 consequences, including difficulty at school, substance abuse, behavioral problems in
5 adolescence, and serious adult health problems; and

6 WHEREAS, the mental, emotional, physical, and financial effects of domestic and
7 dating violence impact our state and local systems, communities, families, individuals,
8 and children; and

9 WHEREAS, the root causes and prevalence of domestic and dating violence
10 throughout the Commonwealth must be brought into the public focus; and

11 WHEREAS, domestic and dating violence cannot be prevented until they are
12 openly recognized and addressed; and

13 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives recognizes the vital role that all
14 Kentuckians can play in preventing, and one day ending, domestic violence and dating
15 violence;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 ***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the***
18 ***Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

19 ➔Section 1. The House of Representatives does hereby recognize October 2024
20 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Kentucky.

21 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
22 Resolution to Representative Stephanie Dietz.