

Sponsor Statement

Senate Concurrent Resolution 6

Relating to the proclamation of April 2001 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month

SCR6 expresses the legislature's desire to increase public awareness about the prevalence of sexual assault and sexual abuse in Alaska.

Sexual assault incidents in Alaska occur at a per capita rate of 2.4 times the national average. Yet, with only one in eight rapes reported, sexual assault is our most underreported crime. Heightened awareness will help decrease incidents through protection and bring offenders to justice through increased reporting.

SCR6 encourages individuals, family and community organizations, to participate in efforts to prevent sexual abuse and assault and combat its effects when it does occur.

Identifying April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month will bolster the impact of Alaska's first Statewide Sexual Violence Prevention Conference, to be held September 5-7, 2001 in Anchorage.

Prepared by John Joeright, Legislative intern to Senator Loren Leman, (465-3841) Last updated March 7, 2001.