

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R03-0966.01 Kate Clark

**HJR03-1026**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 03-1026**

101     **CONCERNING ANTI-VIOLENCE WEEK.**

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1           WHEREAS, There are many kinds of violence that affect  
2 Colorado residents including domestic violence, sexual violence, school  
3 violence, and hate crimes; and

4           WHEREAS, Nationally, as reported by the United States  
5 Department of Justice, approximately twenty-four percent of all victims  
6 of crime are victims of violent crime; and

7           WHEREAS, Crimes of violence are often under-reported due to  
8 the fear of retribution or fear of the stigma associated with victim status;  
9 and

10          WHEREAS, Violence creates a vicious cycle in which those who  
11 experience violence often perpetrate it; and

12          WHEREAS, Too many people, particularly women and children,  
13 are victims of violence; and

14          WHEREAS, A study on youth and violence by the Families and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

1 Work Institute in which school children across the nation were  
2 interviewed about violence found that emotional violence, such as  
3 teasing, cruel put-downs, and gossip, triggers more extreme violence,  
4 such as school shootings; and

5 WHEREAS, The study also suggests that youth violence can result  
6 from the societal pressures that celebrate sameness over diversity; and

7 WHEREAS, Youth violence is increasingly turning inward,  
8 resulting in suicide; and

9 WHEREAS, A recent report from the National Conference of State  
10 Legislatures notes that "More teenagers and young adults die from suicide  
11 each year than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke,  
12 pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease combined"; and

13 WHEREAS, Warning signs for youth suicide include being a  
14 victim of sexual abuse, witnessing domestic violence or being a victim of  
15 it, and being exposed to violence or trauma; and

16 WHEREAS, Fifty percent of the men who frequently assault their  
17 wives also frequently abuse their children; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2002, sixty-two people died in  
19 domestic-violence-related incidents in Colorado; and

20 WHEREAS, The prevalence of domestic violence is consistent  
21 across racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic groups; and

22 WHEREAS, According to the National Violence Against Women  
23 Survey, "violence against women is predominantly intimate partner  
24 violence"; and

25 WHEREAS, One in four Colorado women and one in seventeen  
26 Colorado men have experienced a completed or attempted sexual assault  
27 in their lifetime; and

28 WHEREAS, A study by the National Center for Victims of Crime  
29 reports that the United States has "the world's highest rape rate of the  
30 countries that publish such statistics"; and

31 WHEREAS, International Women's Day, globally celebrated on  
32 March 8, is an internationally recognized day that originally championed  
33 equal rights for women; and

34 WHEREAS, International Women's Day has evolved to honor all  
35 women's struggles to improve their lives which include the struggles for  
36 a greater quality of life, education, liberty, and anti-violence and safety;  
37 now, therefore,

38 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fourth*  
39 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring*  
40 *herein:*

1           (1) That we, the members of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly,  
2 designate March 3rd through 9th, 2003, as Anti-Violence Week in order  
3 to join the general public and anti-violence coalition groups in providing  
4 a united front to reduce violence in Colorado.

5           (2) That we urge Coloradans to become involved in broader  
6 anti-violence coalitions in their local communities that press for  
7 anti-violence awareness, education, and prevention at all levels.

8           *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this joint resolution be sent  
9 to Jennifer Corrigan of the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic  
10 Violence; Rita Smith of the National Coalition Against Domestic  
11 Violence; and Jill McFadden of the Colorado Coalition Against Sexual  
12 Assault.