

1 [National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month - April 2024]

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3 **Resolution recognizing April 2024 as “National Sexual Assault Awareness and**  
4 **Prevention Month” in the City and County of San Francisco.**

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6 WHEREAS, Sexual violence remains a pervasive and urgent public health issue  
7 affecting individuals of all ages, genders, and backgrounds across the United States;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Justice and the  
10 Department of Health and Human Services, an estimated 410,532 individuals in the  
11 United States experienced sexual violence in 2023; and

12 WHEREAS, The Department of Health and Human Services' 2023 Child  
13 Maltreatment Report substantiated 60,273 cases of sexual abuse of children under 18  
14 years of age; and

15 WHEREAS, The alarming frequency of sexual assaults, with someone being  
16 sexually assaulted every 72 seconds according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National  
17 Network (RAINN), underscores the pressing need for sustained efforts in prevention,  
18 intervention, and support services for survivors; and

19 WHEREAS, Despite this prevalence, a significant number of cases go  
20 unreported, exacerbating the barriers survivors face in obtaining justice, including  
21 significant gaps in arrest, prosecution, and conviction rates; and

22 WHEREAS, The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) highlights  
23 that over half of female rape victims report being assaulted by an intimate partner,  
24 exposing the pervasive nature of domestic sexual violence within our communities; and

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1           WHEREAS, RAINN indicates that 54% of sexual assaults occur in or near the  
2 victim's home, emphasizing the critical importance of creating safe environments within  
3 personal spaces and communities; and

4           WHEREAS, Sexual assault disproportionately affects certain populations, such  
5 as American Indians and Alaska Natives, who experience significantly higher rates of  
6 victimization, underscoring the need for culturally sensitive and inclusive support  
7 services; and

8           WHEREAS, The aftermath of sexual assault can lead to severe consequences,  
9 including post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness,  
10 and suicidal ideation, as outlined by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence; and

11           WHEREAS, Collaborations among various agencies and professionals, including  
12 law enforcement, healthcare providers, educators, and victim support services, are  
13 crucial in addressing and combating sexual violence; and

14           WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is steadfast in its  
15 commitment to raising awareness, preventing, and deterring sexual violence in the  
16 community; now, therefore, be it

17           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors officially recognizes  
18 April 2024 as National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

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