

1 [National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month - April 2025]

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3 **Resolution recognizing the month of April 2025 as, "National Sexual Assault**
4 **Awareness and 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; and

8 WHEREAS, Sexual violence can take many forms, including acquaintance rape,
9 intimate partner sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and sex trafficking, and it impacts people
10 of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds; and

11 WHEREAS, It is estimated that nearly one in two women and one in five men
12 experience sexual violence other than rape throughout their lifetime, according to the National
13 Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey; and

14 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified sexual
15 assault as a significant, costly, and preventable health issue; and

16 WHEREAS, In California alone, an estimated 1,000,000 residents are sexually
17 assaulted each year, and over 2,000,000 rape survivors currently reside in the state; and

18 WHEREAS, One in nine girls and one in 20 boys under the age of 18 experience
19 sexual abuse or assault, underscoring the critical importance of prevention, education, and
20 survivor support beginning in early life and within our communities; and

21 WHEREAS, Survivors of sexual assault too often suffer long-term physical and
22 emotional effects, including post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major
23 depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicidal ideation; and

24 WHEREAS, It is our responsibility to support all survivors of sexual assault by treating
25 them with dignity, compassion, and respect; and

1 WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the strength, courage, and resilience of
2 survivors, as well as the challenges faced by their families and loved ones as they cope with
3 the trauma of sexual violence; and

4 WHEREAS, The compassion and dedication of advocates, service providers,
5 healthcare professionals, and justice system partners are vital to helping survivors heal and to
6 increasing public understanding of this widespread issue; and

7 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Department on the Status of Women, community-
8 based organizations, and public agencies continue to address the crisis of sexual violence
9 through coordinated services, education, and prevention efforts; and

10 WHEREAS, National and statewide campaigns such as Denim Day raise awareness
11 and challenge harmful myths about sexual assault, including victim-blaming attitudes that
12 persist in society and institutions; and

13 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors is steadfast in its commitment to
14 supporting survivors, raising awareness, preventing sexual violence, and ensuring access to
15 culturally responsive support services for all; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors officially recognizes the
17 month of April 2025 as National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.