

REPRESENTATIVES BROWN - WAGNER

*Recognizing April 2009 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Ohio.*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Ohio:*

*WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to recognize April 2009 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Ohio; and*

*WHEREAS, The incidents and prevalence of child abuse and neglect have reached alarming proportions, and as a measure to address this issue, April was designated as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month by the United States Congress in 1983. During the month of April each year, the Office on Child Abuse and Neglect of the Children's Bureau coordinates various educational activities and events in an effort to seek and apply solutions to this escalating problem; and*

*WHEREAS, According to a study released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, child protective agencies received around 3.3 million referrals of possible maltreatment and an estimated 905,000 children in America, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico were determined to be victims of abuse or neglect in 2006 alone. Statistics of children who are abused and neglected in the State of Ohio and across the country have continued to increase each year since; and*

*WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect prevention is a community problem, and finding the key to ending it depends on the cooperation and involvement of public leaders, family members, educators, and faith-based and civic organizations throughout the area. It is vital that we all join forces to prevent the occurrence and reoccurrence of this preventable crime, and Child Abuse Awareness Month in Ohio is a fitting time to focus attention upon this problem, not only throughout our state but also across our nation; therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 128th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, recognize April 2009 as Child Abuse Awareness Month in Ohio and urge all citizens to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to the news media of Ohio.*