

REPRESENTATIVES SCHURING - GENTILE

*Recognizing April 2011
as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Ohio.*

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to acknowledge Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Ohio, April 2011; and

WHEREAS, In an effort to increase public knowledge and understanding of the issues surrounding the abuse and neglect of minors, the month of April was first designated by the U.S. Congress as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in 1983, with commemorative legislation passed each year since. Affecting youth of all races and socio-economic backgrounds, child abuse and neglect has long-lasting repercussions, not only for victims and their families but also for communities and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Childhood is a formative time, and communities, family members, educators, public officials, and faith-based community organizations all play important roles in helping to ensure that children are safe and can grow surrounded by love and stability. Every Ohioan has a responsibility to support children and promote safe and stable families across Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect prevention is the most critical issue we can address for the long-term prosperity of our country. Toxic stress from child abuse and neglect impedes healthy brain development, and effective child development equals effective economic development. Research has shown that when protective factors, including parental resiliency, social connection, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete support, and social and emotional development are present, the incidence of child abuse and neglect is reduced. We hold sacred the trust of Ohio's most valuable resource, our children, and the future of our country depends on the opportunities we provide children today; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 129th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, recognize April 2011 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Ohio; 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.