

No. R-282. House concurrent resolution recognizing April 2026 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Vermont and honoring Prevent Child Abuse Vermont for a half century of outstanding community leadership and service.

(H.C.R.230)

Offered by All Members of the House

Whereas, the societal scourge of child abuse can threaten children’s tranquility and family cohesiveness and harmony, and

Whereas, recognizing the severity of this societal problem, Congress enacted the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) of 1974, Pub. L. No. 93–247, and

Whereas, key findings in CAPTA are that “child abuse or neglect can result in the death of a child,” and that “the problem of child abuse and neglect requires a comprehensive approach,” and

Whereas, CAPTA was intended to address these challenges through the creation of a federal Office on Child Abuse and Neglect; grants to states, Native American organizations, and public and private organizations; and improved federal coordination and monitoring, and

Whereas, in Vermont, the nonprofit organization dedicated to child abuse prevention is Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAVT), which, since 1976, has worked to lessen the presence of child abuse in our State, and

Whereas, in 2025, PCAVT served 7,694 adults; 3,451 children; and indirectly supported an additional 86,481 children, and

Whereas, PCAVT has shown that it is possible to reduce the occurrence of child abuse in Vermont by training adults on the perils of child abuse; investing in programs that strengthen families and communities; enabling children to develop positive relationships with caring adults; and creating effective partnerships between schools, health providers, community organizations, businesses, and families, and

Whereas, in 1982, Congress adopted S.J. Res. 149 to designate an annual National Child Abuse Prevention Week and to spotlight the issue and raise greater awareness, and, since 1983, every American President has issued a National Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation, and

Whereas, in 2026, PCAVT is observing its 50th anniversary, an occasion meriting legislative recognition for PCAVT’s continuing dedication to an important cause, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes April 2026 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month in Vermont and honors Prevent Child Abuse Vermont for a half century of outstanding community leadership and service, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to PCAVT.