

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019)

3 HOUSE  
4 RESOLUTION 1021

By: Branham

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Resolution proclaiming the month of April as Sexual  
9 Assault Awareness Month and Wednesday, April 24,  
10 2019, as Denim Day.

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12 WHEREAS, the United States Government has declared April as  
13 Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the organization known as Peace  
14 Over Violence has declared April 24, 2019, as Denim Day; and

15 WHEREAS, both events are intended to draw attention to the fact  
16 that sexual violence remains a serious issue in our society; and

17 WHEREAS, harmful attitudes about all forms of sexual violence  
18 allow these issues to persist and allow victims and survivors of  
19 sexual violence to be revictimized; and

20 WHEREAS, sexual harassment is part of a continuum of violence  
21 whose damaging effects are felt throughout our culture; and

22 WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Denim Day were also  
23 instituted to call attention to misconceptions and misinformation  
24 about sexual violence and the problem that many people in our

1 society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of  
2 sexual harassment, assault, abuse and rape; and

3 WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is a time to draw  
4 attention to the crime of sexual assault which can happen to anyone  
5 regardless of gender, race, education, religion, sexual orientation  
6 or economic class; and

7 WHEREAS, youth under eighteen (18) years of age account for  
8 about forty-four percent (44%) of all reported sexual assaults, at  
9 least twenty-five percent (25%) of women experience sexual  
10 harassment in the workplace and about seventy-five percent (75%) of  
11 sexual harassment victims experience retaliation when he or she  
12 reports it; and

13 WHEREAS, with proper education on the matter and comprehensive  
14 prevention projects, sexual violence and its unfair and traumatizing  
15 effects are preventable; and

16 WHEREAS, members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives  
17 strongly support the efforts of Peace Over Violence and the Young  
18 Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Oklahoma City to educate  
19 persons in our state about the true impact of sexual harassment,  
20 abuse, assault and rape in Oklahoma.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
22 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 57TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

23 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives does hereby proclaim  
24 the month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

1            THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives does hereby designate  
2 April 24, 2019, as Denim Day and urges everyone to wear jeans on  
3 this day to help communicate the message that there is no excuse and  
4 there is never an invitation to harass, abuse, assault or rape.

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