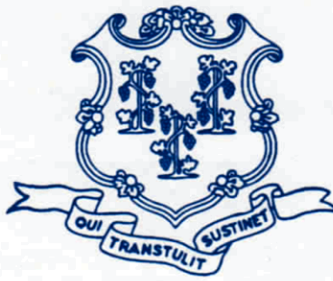


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, sexual assault is an intolerable violent crime with health implications and can be devastating not only for the survivor, but also for the survivor's friends and family; and

*W*HEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own, but we can work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and support victim/survivors and their family members; and

*W*HEREAS, education and conversations surrounding sexual assault and how to prevent it are critical for children, teens and everyone in our communities in order to remain safe and free from this terrible crime; and

*W*HEREAS, every person in Connecticut has the right to live free from unwanted, non-consensual sexual contact and violence and therefore, we must take a firm stand against crimes of sexual assault and sexual violence; and

*W*HEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the month of April 2010 as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Connecticut to support the victims and survivors of sexual assault, to bring increased awareness of this tragedy to our communities, and to call for an end to sexual assault and violence.



M. Jodi Rell
Governor