

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, depression, homelessness, eating disorders and suicide; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault can be devastating for not only the survivor, but also for the family and friends of the survivor; and

WHEREAS, 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, support victims/survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victims/survivors; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim April, 2010 as:

## "Sexual Assault Awareness Month"

throughout the State of New Mexico.

Attest:

Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this 1st day of March, 2010.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the Great State of New Mexico

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Bill Richardson

Governor