

Proclamation

by Governor Joe Manchin III

- Whereas,** sexual assault is an intolerable violent crime with public health implications for every person in West Virginia either as a victim/survivor or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim/survivor; and,
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services and its nine member rape crisis agencies have been leading advocates against sexual assault by providing 24-hour hotline services to victims/survivors and their significant others; and,
- Whereas,** ending sexual assault in West Virginia must include public and private efforts to end this type of crime. The West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services and its member agencies have worked diligently to inform citizens of what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with crucial counseling and other support services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence; and,
- Whereas,** staff and volunteers of sexual assault programs in West Virginia work tirelessly to end sexual violence and to support survivors by providing prevention education and survivor empowerment information to schools, churches, civic organizations, as well as medical mental health, law enforcement, education and criminal justice personnel regarding sexual assault issues; and,
- Whereas,** the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services and its member agencies have established important relationships among service agencies and organizations serves to improve the quality of services for those affected by sexual violence;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Joe Manchin III, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *April 2010* as:

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-second day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Ten, and in the One Hundred Forty-seventh year of the State.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Manchin III", is written over a horizontal line.

Joe Manchin III
Governor

By the Governor:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Natalie E. Tennant", is written over a horizontal line.

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State