STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED
JAN 28 2013
OKLAHOMA SECRETARY OF STATE

GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA 1907

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, *dating violence is a pattern of behavior involving the use or attempted use of physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, financial, technological, or other abusive behavior by a person to harm, coerce, control, threaten, intimidate, harass, isolate, restrain or monitor another person with whom they have or have had a social relationship involving a physical, sexual, or emotional component; and*

Whereas, *one in three girls in the United States will experience physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner by the time she graduates high school, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth; and*

Whereas, *the Center for Disease Control reports nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner each year; and*

Whereas, *physical and sexual dating violence victimization is associated with an increased risk for dropping out of school, lower grades, and less connectedness to school; and*

Whereas, *it is essential to raise awareness among communities and to provide training for teachers, counselors, and school staff so that they may recognize when youth are exhibiting signs of dating violence ; and*

Whereas, *the establishment of Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month will benefit young people, their families, schools, and communities regardless of socioeconomic status, ability, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or ethnicity;*

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, *Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2013 as*

"Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month"

in the State of Oklahoma.

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

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 25th *day of* January *, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and* thirteen *, and of the State of Oklahoma in the* one hundred and fifth year.

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ATTEST: Michelle R Day
Assistant SECRETARY OF STATE

Mary Fallin
GOVERNOR