

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R23-0961.01 Frank Stoner x5498

SR23-006

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marchman,

Senate Committees

SENATE RESOLUTION 23-006

101 **CONCERNING MILITARY SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS MONTH.**

1 WHEREAS, Sexual assault in the United States of America is a
2 pervasive and devastating issue. It impacts every corner of our society,
3 and it is inexcusable at any time, place, or circumstance; and

4 WHEREAS, Most sexual assaults go unreported, and the victims
5 of those assaults often go untreated and are left feeling trapped; and

6 WHEREAS, Military service members in the United States
7 Department of Defense, as well as service members in the United States
8 Department of Homeland Security, have experienced and continue to
9 experience sexual assault; and

10 WHEREAS, In August 2022, the United States Department of
11 Defense reported that 8.4 percent of active duty women indicated an
12 incident of unwanted sexual contact during the year prior to the survey.
13 That 8.4 percent represents approximately 19,466 women; and

14 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Defense also
15 reported that 1.5 percent of active duty men indicated an incident of

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 unwanted sexual contact during the year prior to the survey. That 1.5
2 percent represents approximately 16,617 men; and

3 WHEREAS, Cadets at the United States Air Force Academy in
4 Colorado Springs reported 52 incidents of unwanted sexual contact
5 during the 2021-22 school year, and a number of reports show increasing
6 incidents of sexual assault and other unwanted sexual contact at military
7 academies across the country; and

8 WHEREAS, Such behavior is intolerable, especially among those
9 for whom a strict moral code and a cohesive unit are of the utmost
10 importance. Both are adversely impacted by any such egregious acts upon
11 fellow service members; and

12 WHEREAS, We commend survivors for their perseverance and
13 celebrate the successes many have had despite their traumatic
14 experiences; and

15 WHEREAS, Some survivors have established outreach networks
16 to engage with and support other survivors, and some have taken up the
17 mantle of advocating for survivors at the highest levels of both the
18 military and the government; and

19 WHEREAS, Still others face their daily lives head-on and
20 persevere with grit and determination, carrying out their daily
21 responsibilities and service; and

22 WHEREAS, We acknowledge April 2023 as Military Sexual
23 Assault Survivors Month; now, therefore,

24 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General*
25 *Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

26 That we, the members of the Colorado Senate, acknowledge April
27 2023 as Military Sexual Assault Survivors Month in respectful
28 recognition of the struggles face by thousands of military sexual assault
29 survivors.

30 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this resolution be sent to the
31 Colorado National Guard Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, the Air
32 Force Academy, Protect Our Defenders, and Hope After MST.