

*Presented by Legislators Dixon, Lorigo, Savage, Baskin,
Hardwick, Mills, Rath, Bruso, Burke, Loughran & Miller-Williams*

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., APRIL 12TH, 2018, A.D.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, *That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 12th day of April, 2018, A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

Declaring the Month of April 2018 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in Erie County

WHEREAS, the month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the goal of SAAM is to raise awareness about sexual violence, and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, 1 in 5 women have experienced completed or attempted rape, and about 1 in 15 men have been sexual assault victims in their lifetime, and most victims first experienced sexual violence before age 25 years, and where statistics underestimate the problem because many victims do not tell the police, family, or friends about the violence; and

WHEREAS, in Erie County, the Office of the Sheriff, District Attorney’s Office, Departments of Health, Central Police Services and Social Services and organizations such as the Family Justice Center provide a wide range of services from prevention, crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy to combat domestic and family violence and abuse, rape and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence is a major public health, human rights, and social justice issue and the need for prevention efforts needs to be reinforced by working together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, *that the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to proclaim the month of April 2018 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in Erie County to raise awareness to sexual violence and support its victims and survivors.*