

STATE OF DELAWARE



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**PROCLAMATION
IN OBSERVANCE OF
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH**

Whereas, dating violence is a pattern of controlling, abusive and aggressive behavior and can include stalking, verbal, emotional, physical and sexual abuse, used to exert power and control over a dating partner; and

Whereas, one in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence; and

Whereas, high school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, are at greater risk of suicide and are much more likely to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships; and

Whereas, during the 2017-2018 school year, public and charter schools in Delaware reported 185 incidents of sexual and dating violence offenses to law enforcement and the Department of Education; and

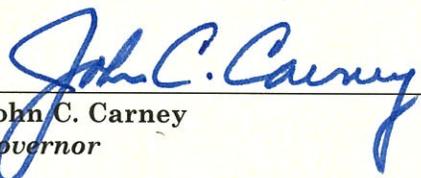
Whereas, it is essential to raise community awareness and to provide training for teachers, counselors and school staff so they can recognize the signs and work together to eliminate all forms of violence; and

Whereas, Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month will benefit young people, their families, schools and communities regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity.

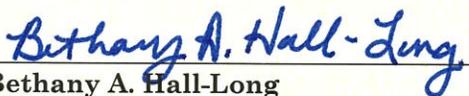
*Now, Therefore, We, John Carney, Governor,
and Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor,
do hereby declare February 2019*

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Delaware, and urge all Delawareans to promote awareness and prevention of teen dating violence in our communities, and to acknowledge our responsibility to set positive examples for our State's teenagers by demonstrating healthy relationships.



John C. Carney
Governor



Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

17-2553
Number