

Senators Young and Hertel offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 188.

A resolution to declare September 25, 2018, as Youth Consent Day.

Whereas, One in five women, at least six percent of men, and over 40 percent of members of the LGBT community enrolled in a Michigan college or university will be sexually assaulted during their time as a student; and

Whereas, Forty-eight percent of middle and high school students between the ages of 12 and 18 reported being sexually harassed at school; and

Whereas, Nearly half of bisexual women who are rape survivors experienced their first rape between ages 11 and 17; and

Whereas, An estimated 80 percent of sexual assaults are not reported when the victim is a college-age female student; and

Whereas, Although the majority of 7th-12th grade girls say that harassment regularly happens and hurts their ability to learn, only 80 percent of U.S. schools report zero percent harassment; and

Whereas, Fewer than 25 percent of women on college campuses who experience rape describe the event as rape; and

Whereas, Young female victims of nonconsensual sexual acts are more likely to experience depression, Posttraumatic stress disorder, self-blame, and alcohol and/or drug abuse; and

Whereas, Despite the existence of nationwide sexual assault prevention programs and the passage of the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination (Campus SaVE) Act by Congress, there is no Michigan-specific awareness day focusing on the issue and importance of consent; and

Whereas, Sexual assault education on college campuses has been shown to increase bystander intervention to prevent sexual assault, improve outcomes for individuals at risk, and increase pro-social attitudes and opposition to rape; and

Whereas, Approximately 25.3 percent of rapes occur due to a personal matter, and the closer the relationship between the female victim and the offender, the less likely the rape will be reported; and

Whereas, Almost 67 percent of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim; and

Whereas, Sexual assaults on college campuses are most likely to occur during the first three months of the school year. Nonconsensual sexual activity is equivalent to sexual assault; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body declare September 25, 2018, as Youth Consent Day.