



Sample Resolution Declaring April National Child Abuse Prevention Month

WHEREAS, child safety is of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is an important societal concern that affects the long-term health and well-being of children as they grow and develop; and

WHEREAS, data from the California Child Welfare Indicators Project — a collaborative venture between the University of California, Berkeley, and the California Department of Social Services — found 391,470 reports of child abuse in 2020, amid concerns that virtual learning during the pandemic led to an underreporting of cases; and

WHEREAS, the Child Welfare Indicators Project and other leading organizations suggest that child abuse is underreported; and

WHEREAS, everyone has a stake in ensuring that children have access to the resources and supports they need to be safe, healthy and successful; and

WHEREAS, child abuse prevention requires a coordinated and comprehensive response by all systems supporting children, youth and families (e.g., schools, law enforcement, health systems, faith-based organizations, and community programs); and

WHEREAS, children spend a significant amount of time each day in school, vulnerable children who experience abuse at home may feel most comfortable reporting it to trusted adult on campus who they feel safe around; and

WHEREAS, suspected child abuse or neglect must immediately be reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities by mandated reporters, which include educators and other school staff; and

WHEREAS, *NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OR COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION* [insert description of any professional development related to spotting signs of child abuse and neglect; programs to help students feel safe at school; or the availability of school counselors who provide children a place to turn to; etc.];

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing board of the *NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OR COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION* declares April National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, *NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OR COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION* [insert description of any new trainings, programs, or events to be held to address the issue of child abuse and neglect during the month of April or in the future].

Adopted this _____ day of the month of _____ in 2022.

Motion made by: _____ Second made by: _____

List members voting "aye:" _____

List members voting "no:" _____

List members abstaining: _____

List members not present: _____