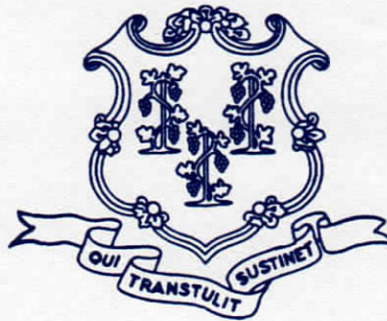


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

Official Statement

WHEREAS, dating violence is both a reality for many young people and an issue that many are unaware of; and

WHEREAS, one in three young people are affected by physical, sexual, or verbal dating violence, one in five in a serious relationship have reported being slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by their partner, and breakups are a time of greater risk, even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

WHEREAS, young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

WHEREAS, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Dating Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the month of February 2010, as

DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Connecticut.



M. Jodi Rell
Governor