House Resolution 107
By: Representatives Ballinger of the 23rd, Smith of the 134th, Evans of the 42nd, Coomer of the 14th, Willard of the 51st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 8, 2017, as Stop Violence Against Women Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, domestic violence is a leading cause of injury to American women, and witnessing such violence can have a devastating emotional effect on children; and

3 WHEREAS, according to the Violence Policy Center, Georgia currently ranks eighth in the nation for the rate of men killing women; and

4 WHEREAS, from inner cities to rural communities, domestic violence and sexual assault affects individuals of every age, culture, class, gender, sexual orientation, race, and religion; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2015, Georgia's law enforcement agencies reported 65,487 incidents of family violence according to Family Violence Incident Reports, the 46 state certified domestic violence programs in Georgia received 44,317 crisis calls, and the 22 state certified sexual assaults centers in Georgia received 9,567 crisis calls; and

6 WHEREAS, law enforcement, local and state agencies, community groups, businesses, and faith based organizations must work together to identify effective intervention strategies and education and prevention programs that will disrupt the cycle of violence; and

7 WHEREAS, the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Georgia Commission on Family Violence, and Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault encourage a coordinated community response to abating this epidemic; and

8 WHEREAS, the dedicated efforts of the professionals and volunteers who make it their mission to stop violence against women by offering protection, guidance, encouragement,
and compassion to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault across this great state are hereby commended with much gratitude.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the members of this body recognize February 8, 2017, as Stop Violence Against Women Day at the state capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the press.