

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. J. Res. 117

To designate August 1, 1993, as “National Incest and Sexual Abuse Healing Day.”

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 28 (legislative day, JUNE 30), 1993

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. ROTH, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. ROBB, Mr. INOUE, Mr. METZENBAUM, and Mr. SASSER) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

To designate August 1, 1993, as “National Incest and Sexual Abuse Healing Day.”

Whereas child abuse occurs in alarming proportions, with two million nine hundred thousand reported cases in 1992, increasing by fifty percent between 1985 and 1992;

Whereas sexual abuse of children, including abuse by family members, is a crime crossing all social or economic boundaries in the United States;

Whereas child abuse is frequently perpetuated, as one generation of victims becomes the next generation of abusers, creating a vicious cycle of violence;

Whereas opportunities to speak out publicly and truthfully about child sexual abuse are deemed of value by numer-

ous survivors and victims' advocates, as a means to promote public awareness and understanding and to foster a sense of support for and among victims;

Whereas open and honest dialogue is a prerequisite for progress in combatting child abuse; and

Whereas August 1, 1993, will be the first nationwide "speakout" by survivors of incest and child sexual abuse: Now, therefore be it

1        *Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3        That August 1, 1993, be designated as "National Incest  
4        and Sexual Abuse Healing Day," to be observed by the  
5        people of the United States with appropriate ceremonies  
6        and activities.

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