

1 By Supervisors Capriolo, Martin, Nicholson,
2 Bielinski, Taylor (17), Taylor (5), Vincent, O'Connor,
3 Martinez, Gómez-Tom, Logsdon, Wasserman, and Rolland
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File No. 24-484

5 **AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**
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7 Recognizing April 24, 2024 as Denim Day in Milwaukee County to support
8 survivors and stand against sexual assault and violence
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11 WHEREAS, April is nationally recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Month;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) reports 81
15 percent of women and 43 percent of men nationwide have reported experiencing some
16 form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime; and
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18 WHEREAS, Denim Day was founded in 1999 in response to an Italian Supreme
19 Court Case that overturned a sexual assault conviction because the victim was wearing
20 tight denim pants and following the ruling, the women of the Italian Parliament wore
21 denim pants to work in solidarity of the survivor; and
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23 WHEREAS, Denim Day asks community members, elected officials, businesses
24 and students to make a statement by wearing denim on **April 24, 2024 the last**
25 **Wednesday in April** as a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that
26 surround sexual violence; and
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28 WHEREAS, harmful attitudes surrounding sexual assault and violence allow
29 these crimes to persist and allow survivors to be re-victimized; and
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31 WHEREAS, Peace Over Violence, an organization dedicated to building healthy
32 relationships, families, and communities free from sexual, domestic and interpersonal
33 violence, has recognized the last Wednesday in April as Denim Day since 1999; and
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35 WHEREAS, the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NIPSV)
36 states that those affected by sexual assault and violence face higher rates of poor
37 mental and physical health; and
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39 WHEREAS, creating a culture of respect and safety surrounding sexual assault
40 and violence can provide support for survivors and prevent future assaults; and
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42 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County achieves to be the healthiest county in Wisconsin
43 and all residents, regardless of age, race, culture, or status deserve to live free from
44 harm and the fear of sexual assault or abuse; and

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46 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic
47 Planning, at its meeting of May 16, 2024, recommended adoption of File No. 24-484 as
48 amended (vote 4-0); now, therefore,

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50 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
51 recognizes April 24, 2024 **and the last Wednesday in each succeeding April** as
52 Denim Day in Milwaukee County to support survivors and stand against sexual assault
53 and violence; and

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55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, people are encouraged to wear jeans or any
56 denim clothing as a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that surround
57 sexual violence.

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05/16/24

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