



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 5950
October 5, 2021
Consent Agenda**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5950: Domestic Violence Action Month Proclamation No. 283	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Mayor Wong proclaims October 2021 as Domestic Violence Action Month.	

DEPARTMENT:	Youth and Family Services
STAFF:	Ali Spietz, Chief of Administration Tambi Cork, YFS Administrator
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Proclamation No. 283
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

SUMMARY

Each October, Domestic Violence Action Month is recognized nationally and highlights the importance of preventing domestic violence through awareness, direct action, and support for survivors.

Domestic violence is defined as the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systemic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It includes physical violence, sexual violence, threats, economic and emotional/psychological abuse. On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. On a typical day, more than 20,000 phone calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide.

Mercer Island is not immune to the epidemic of domestic violence, and the impact on the individual, family, and community as a whole. The Department of Youth and Family Services (“YFS”) provides counseling, assessment, and referral for those experiencing domestic violence and for survivors. Regional partner Lifewire is an additional resource available to Mercer Island residents for victim advocacy, safety planning, and 24-hour crisis response.

If you or someone you know is concerned about your relationship or experiencing abuse at home, call Lifewire’s 24-Hour Helpline at 425-746-1940 or 1-800-827-8840 to speak with an advocate. Mercer Island survivors and their loved ones can also contact Youth and Family Services Department at 206-275-7657 or www.mercerisland.gov/yfs for assistance.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Mayor proclaims October 2021 as Domestic Violence Action Month in Mercer Island.