

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY REPRESENTATIVES PIERRE AND SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Friday, June 1, 2018, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, every day, ninety-six Americans are killed by gun violence, and countless others are injured by guns; and

WHEREAS, Americans are more than twenty-five times more likely to be murdered with a gun than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety is among a legislator's highest responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from dangerous people; and

WHEREAS, June 2, 2018, would have been the twenty-first birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and who was shot and killed just weeks later; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya and the ninety-six Americans whose lives are cut short and the countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day, a national coalition of organizations has designated June 1, 2018, as the fourth annual National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, the idea for such a day was initiated by a group of Hadiya's friends, who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange, a color they chose because hunters wear orange to make their presence known to other hunters, and orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 1 to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by celebrating Wear Orange Weekend from June 1-3 and wearing orange on June 1, Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives and human potential of Americans stolen by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable for citizens and public servants of the state of Louisiana to renew their commitment to reduce gun violence, to pledge to do all they can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and to encourage responsible gun ownership so as to help keep everyone safe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Friday, June 1, 2018, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Louisiana, and further encourages all citizens of the great state of Louisiana to support efforts to honor and value human lives by preventing the tragic effects of gun violence.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES