

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12

BY SENATOR CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To declare June 1, 2018, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

WHEREAS, this Resolution declares June 1, 2018, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in the state of Louisiana to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

WHEREAS, every day, 96 Americans are killed by gun violence and countless others are injured; and

WHEREAS, Americans are more than 25 times more likely to be murdered with guns than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, among legislators' highest responsibilities is protecting public safety in the communities in which they serve; and

WHEREAS, support for 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 21st birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama's second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later; and

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya and the 96 Americans whose lives are cut short daily as well as 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 was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods, 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 first to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

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

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children safe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby declare June 1, 2018, as National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all Louisiana citizens are encouraged to support their communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE