By Senator Wilson

33-4A-05

Senate Resolution No. A resolution recognizing April 20, 2005, as 2 "STOP Day" in the State of Florida. 3 4 5 WHEREAS, violence in America's schools threatens the core of the educational process and deprives students and teachers of opportunities to learn and teach without the fear 8 of harm, and WHEREAS, "STOP Day" is intended to raise awareness of 9 the growing epidemic of violence in America's schools and to 10 motivate those who foment violence to opt for peaceful 11 resolution of their grievances and a path of self-improvement 13 and healing, and WHEREAS, students are urged to recite the "Stop Day" 14 pledge, which states: "I pledge to be nonviolent and to 15 respect my fellow classmates. I will report crime or acts of 16 violence to appropriate officials or call Crime Stoppers to 18 report incidents anonymously. I will not let the actions of a few make my school dangerous or unsafe. I want a safe 19 learning environment and will work with my fellow students to 20 21 make it so," and 22 WHEREAS, "STOP Day" participants are urged to show 23 their support by developing anti-violence community service projects, inviting legal professionals to speak to student 2.4 groups, conducting open-ended skits that allow student 25 observers to predict outcomes of conflict based upon real life 26 27 choices, developing a process that encourages the reporting of 2.8 school crime or violence, and conducting mock trials, and WHEREAS, "STOP Day" will give every student in Florida 29 30 an opportunity to evaluate this critical issue and assess his 31

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1 or her role in preventing crime or violence in our schools,
   NOW, THEREFORE,
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   Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:
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           That the Florida Senate is aware of the importance of
    stopping violence in schools and recognizes April 20, 2005, as
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    "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.
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