

By Senator Wilson

33-49A-04

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution recognizing April 20, 2004 as
3 "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, violence in America's schools threatens the
6 core of the educational process and deprives students and
7 teachers of opportunities to learn and teach without the fear
8 of harm, and

9 WHEREAS, "STOP Day" is intended to raise awareness of
10 the growing epidemic of violence in America's schools and to
11 encourage those who foment violence to opt for peaceful
12 resolution of their grievances and a path of self-improvement
13 and healing, and

14 WHEREAS, students are urged to recite the "Stop Day"
15 pledge, which states: "I pledge to be nonviolent and to
16 respect my fellow classmates. I will report crime or acts of
17 violence to appropriate officials or call Crime Stoppers to
18 report incidents anonymously. I will not let the actions of a
19 few make my school dangerous or unsafe. I want a safe
20 learning environment and will work with my fellow students to
21 make it so," and

22 WHEREAS, "STOP Day" participants are urged to show
23 their support by developing anti-violence community service
24 projects, inviting legal professionals to speak to student
25 groups, conducting open-ended skits that allow student
26 observers to predict outcomes of conflict based upon real life
27 choices, developing a process that encourages the reporting of
28 school crime or violence, and conducting mock trials, and

29 WHEREAS, "STOP Day" will give every student in Florida
30 an opportunity to evaluate this critical issue and assess his

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1 or her role in preventing crime or violence in our schools,
2 NOW, THEREFORE,

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4 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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6 That the Florida Senate is aware of the importance of
7 stopping violence in schools and recognizes April 20, 2004 as
8 "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.

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