

By Senator Wilson

33-00090A-08

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 18, 2008, as "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.

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 of harm, and

WHEREAS, "STOP Day" is intended to raise awareness of the growing epidemic of violence in America's schools and to motivate those who incite violence to opt for peaceful resolution of their grievances and a path of self-improvement and healing, and

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

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

WHEREAS, "STOP Day" will give every student in Florida an opportunity to evaluate this critical issue and assess his or her role in preventing crime or violence in our schools, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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33 That the Florida Senate is aware of the importance of
34 stopping violence in schools and recognizes April 18, 2008, as
35 "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.