

By Senator Wilson

33-00073-09

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 17, 2009, as "STOP Day"
3 in the State of Florida.

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

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

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

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

26 WHEREAS, "STOP Day" will give every student in Florida an
27 opportunity to evaluate this critical issue and assess his or
28 her role in preventing crime or violence in our schools, NOW,
29 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 17, 2009, as
35 "STOP Day" in the State of Florida.