

By Senator Bullard

39-01218-14

20141418__

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the month of June 2014 as
"Gun Violence Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, in 2012, 721 homicides in this state were
committed by use of firearms, representing 71.4 percent of the
total number of homicides committed, and

WHEREAS, in that same year, 13,455 aggravated assaults in
this state were committed by use of firearms, representing 22.8
percent of all aggravated assaults committed, and

WHEREAS, gun violence continues to be a devastating crisis
throughout this state and the nation, with firearm homicide the
leading cause of death nationwide for African Americans between
1 and 44 years of age, and

WHEREAS, minority communities continue to be
disproportionately affected by gun violence, and

WHEREAS, guns are the most common weapons used in acts of
domestic violence against women, and access to firearms
increases the risk of homicide by more than 5 times, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that public awareness of gun
violence be raised at the local, state, and national levels, and

WHEREAS, increased awareness and coordination among all of
the stakeholders is critical to the prevention of gun violence,
the equal protection of all citizens, and the safety of our
children and youth, and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature that this
resolution will inspire a necessary discussion in communities
across this state of gun violence and public and private
programs aimed at prevention, intervention, education, and

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30 outreach, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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34 That the month of June 2014 is recognized as "Gun Violence
35 Awareness Month" in Florida.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
37 presented to the Governor as a tangible token of the sentiments
38 expressed in this resolution.