

By Senator Braynon

35-01334-17

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Senate Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
urging Congress to designate the month of September
2017 as "Firearm Violence Awareness Month."

WHEREAS, the Department of Law Enforcement reports that in
2015 there were 767 homicides, 154 rapes, 17,095 aggravated
assaults, and 8,672 robberies involving a firearm committed in
Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
states that every year approximately 33,600 people are killed
and 81,000 people are injured in homicides, aggravated assaults,
suicides and suicide attempts, unintentional shootings, and
police interventions involving firearms in the United States,
and

WHEREAS, more than 2,600 of the people killed by firearms
each year are children age 19 or younger, and

WHEREAS, the public has been horrified and saddened by
recent mass shooting events such as the one on June 12, 2016, in
which 49 people were killed and 53 people were wounded in the
Pulse nightclub in Orlando and by firearm homicides such as the
one on August 30, 2016, in which 8-year-old Jada Page was killed
in a drive-by shooting in Miami, and

WHEREAS, the United States firearm homicide rate is 20
times higher than the combined rates of 22 other countries that
are its peers in wealth and population, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be greater public
awareness of firearm violence, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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33 That the Congress of the United States designate the month
34 of September 2017 as "Firearm Violence Awareness Month."35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is
36 directed to dispatch copies of this memorial to the President of
37 the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States
38 House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida
39 delegation to the United States Congress.