

By Senator Berman

31-01107-22

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing November 2022, and each
3 November thereafter, as "Family Court Awareness Month"
4 in Florida.

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6 WHEREAS, in 2021, 4-year-old Greyson Kessler was shot and
7 killed by his biological father during an approved court visit,
8 despite his father's history of abusive behavior and a plea to
9 the court from his mother, Ali Kessler, to protect him, and

10 WHEREAS, to help honor Greyson Kessler's life and the lives
11 of the estimated 58,000 children annually who are at risk due to
12 being ordered into unsupervised visitation with an abusive
13 parent, a national coalition of organizations launched a
14 nationwide movement to seek the designation of November as
15 Family Court Awareness Month, and

16 WHEREAS, the mission of that coalition, the Family Court
17 Awareness Month Committee, is to provide judges and other family
18 court professionals with current empirical data and research,
19 which are critical components in making judicial determinations
20 that are in the best interest of children, and

21 WHEREAS, the committee's mission is fueled by the desire
22 for awareness and change in the family court system and to honor
23 the lives of the more than 800 children reported murdered in the
24 United States by separating or divorcing parents, and

25 WHEREAS, in at least 110 of those cases, the courts heard
26 direct pleas to intervene before the crime occurred, and

27 WHEREAS, the recognition of Family Court Awareness Month is
28 intended to increase awareness of the importance of education
29 and training on family violence, childhood trauma, and

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30 postseparation abuse for all professionals working within the
31 family court system, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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35 That November 2022, and each November thereafter, is
36 recognized as "Family Court Awareness Month" in Florida.