

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 473

Expressing support for the designation of June as National Gun Violence Awareness Month and calling on Congress to address gun violence.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2015

Ms. NORTON submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of June as National Gun Violence Awareness Month and calling on Congress to address gun violence.

Whereas summer is the season with the highest rates of gun violence in the United States;

Whereas 100,000 Americans suffer gunshot wounds in the United States every year;

Whereas approximately 89 people die and approximately 300 are injured from gun violence each day in the United States;

Whereas more than 50 percent of all gunshot victims in the United States are under 30 years old;

Whereas every 60 minutes one American under the age of 25 loses his or her life to gun violence;

Whereas 5 percent of gun dealers (approximately 3,000 dealers nationwide) supply nearly 90 percent of all crime guns that show up in American streets;

Whereas fewer than 100 people in the United States have been killed in terror attacks since September 11, 2001, but tens of thousands have been killed by gun violence in that same time period;

Whereas more Americans have died from gunshot wounds in the past three decades than the sum total of combat deaths in all the wars in United States history;

Whereas two-thirds of all homicides and half of all suicides are a result of gunshot wounds;

Whereas 90 percent of homicides of law enforcement officers are a result of gunshot wounds;

Whereas firearms used during a robbery are three times more likely than knives and ten times more likely than other weapons to result in the death of a victim;

Whereas 84 percent of homicides against male victims between the ages of 15 to 34 are committed with guns;

Whereas 20 percent of female homicide victims are killed by a current or former partner using firearms;

Whereas gun violence declined in the 1990s after the enactment of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act in 1993, which created a national background check system, and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, which placed a ten-year ban on the sale of assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines;

Whereas with the rise over time of sales in “no questions asked” transactions, 40 percent of guns sold in America are now done so without a Brady background check;

Whereas the ban on the sale of assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines expired in 2004;

Whereas in 2015, after years of decline, the number of homicides due to gunshot wounds has spiked again in cities such as Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, and New Orleans;

Whereas this trend of increasing gun violence may spread;

Whereas in the 16 States that require background checks of private gun sales, there are 38 percent fewer fatal shootings of women by their partners, 39 percent fewer police murdered by firearms, 17 percent fewer firearm aggravated assaults, and 49 percent fewer suicides using firearms;

Whereas murder due to gunshot wounds climbed 25 percent in Missouri when universal background checks were lifted;

Whereas 33,636 deaths in the United States were due to guns in 2013; and

Whereas June would be an appropriate month to designate as National Gun Violence Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of National Gun
3 Violence Awareness Month; and

4 (2) calls on Congress to enact the following leg-
5 islation from the 114th Congress to address gun vio-
6 lence:

1 (A) H.R. 3051, the Background Check
2 Completion Act, to prevent firearms dealers
3 from transferring firearms before a background
4 check of the prospective buyer has been com-
5 pleted.

6 (B) H.R. 752, the Large Capacity Ammu-
7 nition Feeding Device Act, to ban large capac-
8 ity ammunition magazines.

9 (C) H.R. 3455, the Gun Trafficking Pre-
10 vention Act of 2015, to limit the trafficking of
11 firearms.

12 (D) H.R. 3130, the Zero Tolerance for Do-
13 mestic Abusers Act, to protect victims of stalk-
14 ing from gun violence.

15 (E) H.R. 3411, the Fix Gun Checks Act of
16 2015, and H.R. 1217, the Public Safety and
17 Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of
18 2015, to require a background check for every
19 gun transfer and to ensure that anyone who is
20 prohibited from buying a gun is listed in the
21 National Instant Criminal Background Check
22 System.

23 (F) Legislation to ban assault weapons.

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