

HM 171

2017

## 1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
3 urging Congress to designate the month of September  
4 2017 as "Firearm Violence Awareness Month."  
5

6 WHEREAS, the Department of Law Enforcement reports that in  
7 2015 there were 767 homicides, 154 rapes, 17,095 aggravated  
8 assaults, and 8,672 robberies involving a firearm committed in  
9 Florida, and

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

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

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

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

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

29

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

31

32 That the Congress of the United States designate the month  
33 of September 2017 as "Firearm Violence Awareness Month."

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
35 dispatched to the President of the United States Senate, to the  
36 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to  
37 each member of the Florida delegation to the United States  
38 Congress.