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House Resolution

A resolution designating the month of September 2018 as "Violence Prevention and Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the Department of Law Enforcement reports that in 2016 violent crime posed a serious danger to Floridians, with 1,108 homicides, 7,583 rapes, 59,678 aggravated assaults, and 20,132 robberies committed in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation states that in 2016 approximately 1,248,185 violent crimes occurred throughout the United States, including 17,250 homicides, 130,603 rapes, 803,007 aggravated assaults, and 332,198 robberies, and

WHEREAS, more than 2,600 of the people killed in violent crimes each year are children age 19 or younger, such as the homicide on August 30, 2016, in which 8-year-old Jada Page was killed in a drive-by shooting in Miami, and

WHEREAS, the public has been horrified and saddened by the 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

WHEREAS, in the most recent statistics, Florida has the 5th highest violent crime rate and the 23rd highest homicide rate in the United States, and

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25 WHEREAS, several Florida counties, including Miami-Dade, 26 Palm Beach, and Marion, have created violence prevention 27 projects to raise awareness and prevent violence in their 28 communities, and 29 WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be greater public 30 awareness and prevention of violence, NOW, THEREFORE, 31 32 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida: 33 34 35 That the month of September 2018 is designated as "Violence 36 Prevention and Awareness Month" in Florida.