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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 270

Offered January 24, 2000

Recognizing the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence.

Patron—Almand

Referred to Committee on Militia and Police

WHEREAS, the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence, first observed on October 10, 1996, has been supported by proclamations of the President and by resolutions of the United States Senate, and both Senator John Warner and Senator Charles Robb have been among the co-patrons of these resolutions, and it has been endorsed by numerous educational, religious, civic, and medical organizations; and

WHEREAS, an attempt to end violence among young people cannot succeed without the participation of the young people affected; and

WHEREAS, almost two million school students nationally signed the Student Pledge Against Gun Violence, a key activity of the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence, for the observance last year; and

WHEREAS, October 17, 2000, has been established as the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence; and

WHEREAS, on that day, young people throughout Virginia and around the nation will be given the opportunity to sign the Student Pledge Against Gun Violence, promising never to bring a gun to school, never to use a gun to resolve a dispute, and to use their influence to keep friends from using guns to settle disputes; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia PTA/PTSA, the United Way, Virginians Against Handgun Violence, Mothers Against Weapons, the Junior League of Norfolk and Virginia Beach and others have actively encouraged students to sign the pledge and have promoted the Day of Concern in their various communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby recognize October 17, 2000, as the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Virginia PTA/PTSA, the United Way, Virginians Against Handgun Violence, Mothers Against Weapons, and the Junior League of Norfolk and Virginia Beach be commended for their laudable efforts to stem the tide of youth violence in America; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Virginia's students be afforded the opportunity to sign the Student Pledge Against Gun Violence; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the State Board of Education and to the superintendents of Virginia's school divisions so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly and include the Day of National Concern in their 2000-2001 school calendars.

INTRODUCED

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