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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 415**

House Amendments in [ ] — March 5, 1998

*Recognizing [ October 8, 1998, as ] the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence.*

Patrons—Almand, Baskerville, Brink, Christian, Crittenden, Darner, Hull, Jones, J.C., Keating, Moran, Plum, Puller, Scott, Van Landingham, Van Yahres and Watts; Senators: Couric, Lucas and Whipple

Consent to introduce

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, on November 10, 1997, hundreds of thousands of young people across the nation signed the Student Pledge Against Gun Violence, part of the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence; and

WHEREAS, sponsored by the Mothers Against Violence in America, the Day of National Concern has been supported by proclamations from President Clinton and the governors of several states and by a United States Senate resolution; and

WHEREAS, an attempt to end the violence among young people that has too often led to tragedy, the Day of National Concern will this year occur on October 8, 1998; 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 Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence has the endorsement of a wide range of concerned organizations, including the National Education Association; the American Federation of Teachers; the Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian Churches; Hadassah; and the American Medical Association; and

WHEREAS, Mothers Against Violence in America, through the Day of National Concern, has taken a promising first step in ending the violence that afflicts too many families in Virginia and the nation; now, therefore, be it

[ **RESOLVED** by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Mothers Against Violence in America for its laudable and effective efforts to stem the tide of youth violence in America; and, be it

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, That the General Assembly hereby recognize October 8, 1998, as the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence in Virginia; and, be it

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates communicate to all of Virginia's school districts the General Assembly's support for the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence, including the opportunity for Virginia's students to sign the Student Pledge Against Gun Violence.

**RESOLVED** by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly recognize October 8, 1998, as the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence in Virginia; and, be it

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, That Mothers Against Violence in America be commended for its laudable and effective 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 a copy of this resolution to the superintendents of the local school divisions in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter. ]

ENGROSSED

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