

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.270

Rep. Stone offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare the June 5, 2020, as National Gun
2 Violence Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun
4 violence and on average there are more than 13,000 gun homicides
5 every year; and

6 Whereas, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun
7 homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

8 Whereas, In an average year, Michigan has 1187 gun deaths,
9 with a rate of 11.8 deaths per 100,000 people. Michigan has the
10 30th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

11 Whereas, Gun homicides predominantly occur in cities, with
12 more than half of all firearm related gun deaths in the nation



1 occurring in 127 cities; and

2 Whereas, Cities across the nation, including cities in
3 Michigan are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-
4 based solutions; and

5 Whereas, Protecting public safety in the communities they
6 serve is the legislatures' highest responsibility; and

7 Whereas, Support for the Second Amendment rights of law-
8 abiding citizens goes hand-in-hand with keeping guns away from
9 people with dangerous histories; and

10 Whereas, Legislators and law enforcement officers know their
11 communities best, are the most familiar with local criminal
12 activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to
13 understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

14 Whereas, The pandemic facing America has drastically impacted
15 communities and individuals sheltering in place which may result in
16 situations where access to firearms results in increased risk in
17 intimate partner violence gun deaths, suicide by gun and
18 unintentional shootings; and

19 Whereas, In January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who
20 marched in the presidential inaugural parade and was tragically
21 shot and killed just weeks later, should be now celebrating her
22 23rd birthday; and

23 Whereas, To help honor Hadiya - and the more than 100
24 Americans whose lives are cut short every day and the countless
25 survivors who are injured by shootings every day - a national
26 coalition of organizations has designated June 5, 2020, the first
27 Friday in June, as the 6th National Gun Violence Awareness Day; and

28 Whereas, The idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya's friends,
29 who asked their classmates to commemorate her life by wearing

1 orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to
2 announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and
3 orange is a color that symbolizes the value of human life; and

4 Whereas, Anyone can join this campaign by pledging to Wear
5 Orange on June 5th, the first Friday in June in 2020, to help raise
6 awareness about gun violence; and

7 Whereas, By wearing orange on June 5, 2020 Americans will
8 raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun
9 violence victims and survivors; and

10 Whereas, We renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and
11 pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the wrong hands,
12 and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our children
13 safe; now, therefore, be it

14 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
15 this legislative body declare June 5, 2020, as National Gun
16 Violence Awareness Day in the state of Michigan. We encourage all
17 citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the
18 tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.