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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To declare the month of June 2026 as “Gun Violence Awareness Month” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager from Chicago who marched in the presidential inaugural parade in January 2013 and was tragically shot and killed weeks later, should be celebrating her 29<sup>th</sup> birthday this year;

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya and to raise awareness of the epidemic of gun violence in the United States, a national coalition of organizations has designated the first Friday in June as National Gun Violence Awareness Day and the month of June as Gun Violence Awareness Month;

WHEREAS, each year in the United States nearly 46,000 individuals are killed, nearly 97,000 individuals are wounded by gunfire, more than 19,000 individuals are killed in homicides involving guns, nearly 26,000 individuals die by suicide using a gun, and more than 500 individuals are killed in unintentional shootings;<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, firearms are the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States;<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [Pew Research](#)

<sup>2</sup> [John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health](#)

28 WHEREAS, Black residents are disproportionately impacted by gun violence, with 9 out  
29 of 10 victims of homicides and nonfatal shootings in the District of Columbia involving Black  
30 individuals;<sup>3</sup>

31 WHEREAS, while the District has made significant progress towards the reduction of gun  
32 violence, with a reduction from 431 to 103 offenses involving a gun from 2025 to 2026, continued  
33 progress is necessary to end gun violence in the District;<sup>4</sup>

34 WHEREAS, gun violence prevention requires comprehensive public safety investments  
35 including community investments in housing stability, a strong educational system, a pathway for  
36 jobs, access to health care, bolstering communities through trauma healing, and investing in  
37 community violence intervention services; and

38 WHEREAS, the Council of the District of Columbia remains committed to ending gun  
39 violence in the District and building a peaceful city for all residents.

40 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
41 resolution may be cited as the “Gun Violence Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2026”.

42 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia declares the month of June 2026 as “Gun  
43 Violence Awareness Month” in the District of Columbia and encourages all District residents to  
44 look for ways to support their local communities’ efforts to prevent the tragic effects of  
45 gun violence and honor and value precious human life.

46 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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<sup>3</sup> [DC Justice Lab; Giffords](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Office of Gun Violence Prevention](#)