

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2019-1026

TITLE: Resolution Memorializing the Marjory Stoneman-Douglas Shooting Victims One Year Later

AUTHOR(S): Senator Andrew Goren, Senator Katelyn Hernandez

SPONSOR(S): Senator Abby Morris, Senator Branden Pearson, Senator Gabi Zlatnoff, Senator Tyler Kendrick, Senator Michael Rosen, Senator Matthew Diaz, Majority Party Leader Cooper Brown, Public Relations Chair for March for Our Lives Gainesville Julia Cordover

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2018, 14 students and 3 staff members were shot and killed by a lone gunman at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High school in Parkland, Florida; and,

WHEREAS, these victims were: 14 year old Alyssa Alhadeef, 35 year old Scott Beigel, 14 year old Martin Duque, 17 year old Nicholas Dwore, 37 year old Aaron Feis, 14 year old Jaime Guttenburg, 49 year old Chris Hixon, 15 year old Luke Hoyer, 14 year old Cara Loughran, 14 year old Gina Montalto, 17 year old Joaquin Oliver, 14 year old Alaina Petty, 18 year old Meadow Pollack, 17 year old Helena Ramsay, 14 year old Alex Schachter, 16 year old Carmen Schentrup, and 15 year old Peter Wang [1]; and,

WHEREAS, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting survivors started the March for Our Lives and the #NeverAgain movements to end gun violence in memory of their fallen teachers and classmates [2]; and,

WHEREAS, massive amounts of growth have been seen in support of the #NeverAgain movement [4]; and,

WHEREAS, the gunman's mental health and other warning signs were not acknowledged that could have been addressed to prevent this event from occurring [4]; and,

WHEREAS, hundreds of students organized a mass walkout and protest on February 20 and 21, 2018, where they walked together to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to pay their respects to the victims and their families [5] [6]; and,

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2018, thousands of students in Tallahassee, Florida, marched on the Old Capitol building in support of the #NeverAgain movement [7] the day after the Florida House of Representatives failed to consider a bill that would ban assault rifles [8]; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Florida has a large community of students who lived in Parkland and are graduates of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School; and,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate memorializes a year ago on February 14, 2018, the 17 victims who lost their lives due to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate will continue to support and promote the awareness of mental health issues on campus and throughout the State of Florida.

THEREFORE, LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate continues to stand strong with students around the nation, the families of the victims, and all of those affected by the shootings.

THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the University of Florida Student Senate will continue to fully supports the March for Our Lives and #NeverAgain movements to help end gun violence in our communities.

Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Jose R. Oliva, Florida Senate President Bill Galvano, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, Senator Rick Scott, Senator Marco Rubio, and Principal of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Ty Thompson

[1] <https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/15/us/florida-shooting-victims-school/index.html>

[2] <https://marchforourlives.com/mission-statement/>

[3] <https://www.campussafetymagazine.com/safety/mental-health-records-parkland-gunman/>

[4] <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2018/02/19/587089773/teens-lie-in-at-white-house-to-protest-for-stronger-gun-control>

[5] <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/02/17/students-teachers-planning-nationwide-walkout-protest-gun-control-inaction-students-fed-up-they-plan/348752002/>

[6] <https://www.miaminewtimes.com/slideshow/stoneman-douglas-walk-of-solidarity-in-parkland-photos-10166302>

[7] <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/neveragain-thousands-students-descend-florida-s-capital-gun-reform-ral%20I%20v-n849971>

[8] <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/assault-rifle-ban-bill-florida-lawmakers-vote-down-motion-to-take-up-bill-after-parkside-florida-shooting/>