

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 798

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the relationship between firearm violence and intimate partner violence and to honor the memory of Gladys Ricart and other victims of intimate partner homicide killed by firearms, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CARSON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. STRICKLAND) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Natural Resources, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the relationship between firearm violence and intimate partner violence and to honor the memory of Gladys Ricart and other victims of intimate partner homicide killed by firearms, and for other purposes.

Whereas domestic violence perpetrated with a firearm disproportionately affects millions of American adults and children, with a particular impact on women;

Whereas nearly 92 percent of women killed by firearms in high-income countries were American women;

Whereas firearms are used in nearly 59 percent of cases where women are killed by their intimate partners;

Whereas an average of 57 women are killed by their intimate partners using firearms every month;

Whereas 59 percent of mass shootings between 2014 and 2019 were connected to instances of domestic or intimate partner violence;

Whereas only 16 percent of victims in domestic violence-related mass shootings survive such incidents compared to 37 percent of victims in nondomestic violence-related mass shootings;

Whereas nearly 1 in 10 United States adults have experienced nonfatal firearm abuse at the hands of an intimate partner, such as being threatened directly with a firearm or by a partner who possessed or had easy access to a firearm, or having a firearm fired or pointed at them;

Whereas 4,500,000 women in the United States reported having been threatened with a firearm by an intimate partner;

Whereas, when an abusive male partner has access to a firearm, a female victim of such abuse is 5 times more likely to be killed;

Whereas, in two-thirds of households with a history of abuse and with firearms present, the abusive partner used the firearm against the victim by threatening or otherwise terrorizing them;

Whereas over half of all intimate partner homicides are committed in never-married relationships;

Whereas the deadly intersection of firearms and intimate partner violence affects all women, but it has a disproportionate impact on Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic women;

Whereas 1 in 3 Hispanic women have experienced intimate partner violence;

Whereas, compared to non-Hispanic White women, Black women are twice as likely to be fatally shot by an intimate partner, and nearly 3 times more likely at the ages between 18 and 34;

Whereas more than half of the population of American Indian/Alaska Native women have experienced physical violence by intimate partners; and

Whereas early research shows that domestic and intimate partner violence have increased during the COVID–19 pandemic: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) the House of Representatives—

3 (A) recognizes the relationship between
4 firearm violence and intimate partner violence;

5 (B) commends domestic violence victim ad-
6 vocates, domestic violence victim service pro-
7 viders, crisis hotline staff, and first responders
8 serving victims of domestic violence for their
9 compassionate support of survivors of domestic
10 violence; and

11 (C) pledges to fund comprehensive re-
12 search on the nexus of firearms and intimate

1 partner violence, including the disproportionate
2 impact on Black, American Indian/Alaska Na-
3 tive, and Hispanic people; and

4 (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-
5 tives that the Congress should—

6 (A) strengthen the National Instant Crimi-
7 nal Background Check System to keep firearms
8 out of the hands of those who are prohibited
9 from possessing them;

10 (B) restrict access to firearms by all people
11 subject to domestic violence restraining orders;

12 (C) continue to support programs designed
13 to assist survivors of domestic violence, hold
14 perpetrators of domestic violence accountable,
15 and bring an end to domestic violence;

16 (D) continue to support local relinquish-
17 ment processes to ensure compliance with Fed-
18 eral firearm prohibitions in domestic violence
19 cases;

20 (E) immediately consider H.R. 1494, the
21 Zero Tolerance for Domestic Abusers Act, and
22 H.R. 1441, the No Guns for Abusers Act of
23 2021; and

24 (F) call on the Senate to immediately con-
25 sider H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background

1 Checks Act of 2021, H.R. 1446, the Enhanced
2 Background Checks Act of 2021, and H.R.
3 1620, the Violence Against Women Reauthor-
4 ization Act of 2021.

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