

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

RESOLUTION

The City Council of the City of Lowell wishes to go on record to declare the first Friday in June in the City of Lowell to be Gun Violence Awareness Day.

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WHEREAS, each year, tens of thousands of people in the United States are killed or injured by gunfire, including homicides involving firearms, suicides by firearm, and accidental shootings; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 alone, there have been over 200 mass shooting incidents in the United States in which four or more people were killed or wounded by gunfire, including dozens of incidents in which a gun was fired in a school; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be murdered with firearms than people in other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, in January 2013, 15 year old Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed, and on June 3, 2022, to recognize her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, people across the United States observed National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wore orange in tribute to Hadiya, other victims of gun violence, and their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Massachusetts consistently has one of the lowest rates of gun violence in the country thanks to comprehensive gun violence prevention laws. The City of Lowell supports continued local, state, and national efforts to strengthen life-saving gun safety laws and implement commonsense reform that will keep our communities safe.

WHEREAS, gun violence typically escalates during the summer months, Gun Violence Awareness Day will bring attention to the epidemic of gun violence in America and honor those who are victims of gun violence every year.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL as follows:

That we, the members of the City Council of the City of Lowell be recorded to declare the first Friday in June in the City of Lowell as Gun Violence Awareness Day.