



SPONSOR: Sen. Sturgeon & Rep. K. Williams & Rep. Dorsey Walker  
Sens. Gay, Hansen, Hoffner, Huxtable, Lockman,  
S. McBride, Pinkney, Sokola, Townsend; Reps.  
Baumbach, Griffith, Heffernan, K. Johnson, Longhurst,  
Morrison, Osienki

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 68

RECOGNIZING THE FIRST FULL WEEK IN JUNE AS "DELAWARE GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION WEEK" IN DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, since the onset of COVID-19, the United States has seen a rise in gun violence and increased gun  
2 violence, particularly among first-time owners, which have greatly increased the risk of child gun suicide and unintentional  
3 shootings; and

4 WHEREAS, an estimated 4.6 million United States children live in households with at least one loaded, unlocked  
5 firearm; and

6 WHEREAS, according to Everytown for Gun Safety nearly 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot  
7 themselves or someone else every year, roughly one unintentional shooting per day, and 77% of these incidents occur  
8 inside a home; and

9 WHEREAS, every year in the United States, another 590 children die by gun suicide, most often using guns  
10 belonging to a family member, and over the past decade the firearm suicide rate among children and teenagers has  
11 increased 59%; and

12 WHEREAS, in incidents of gun violence on school grounds, 79% of active shooters are current students or recent  
13 graduates, and 80% of shooters under the age of 18 obtained their guns from their own home or the home of a relative or  
14 friend; and

15 WHEREAS, evidence strongly suggests that secure firearm storage is an essential component to any effective  
16 strategy to keeping students and schools safe, and research shows that secure firearm storage practices are associated with  
17 up to an 85% reduction in the risk of self-inflicted and unintentional firearm injuries among children and teenagers; and

18 WHEREAS, statistics from the John Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health show gun violence is  
19 the leading cause of death for children and teenagers in Delaware; and

20 WHEREAS, according to 2020 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Delaware was ranked  
21 25<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states with the highest gun death rates; and

22           WHEREAS, across the state, policymakers, community members, and local leaders are working together to  
23 implement public awareness campaigns which encourage secure gun storage practices and highlights the public safety risks  
24 of unsecured guns.

25           NOW, THEREFORE:

26           BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of  
27 Representatives concurring therein, in recognition of Delaware's Gun Violence Awareness Week, the General Assembly  
28 renews our commitment to reduce gun violence, pledge to store all firearms securely, and encourage gun owners in our  
29 State to be safe and responsible.

#### SYNOPSIS

This resolution proclaims the first full week of June as the "Delaware Gun Violence Prevention Week" in the State of Delaware, in which we remember and honor all survivors of gun violence and ask that all Delawareans consider ways that we as a community can reduce gun violence - including storing all firearms securely.

Author: Senator Sturgeon