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HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT AND FUND THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF FIREARMS VIOLENCE AND PREVENTION.

WHEREAS, gun violence is a serious public health concern affecting many individuals across the State and country; and

WHEREAS, according to data from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ninety-six people are killed with guns each day in the United States, totaling approximately 35,000 people annually; and

WHEREAS, 13,000 of the annual gun deaths in the United States are homicides, placing the nation's homicide rate at more than twenty-five times the average of other developed countries; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ceased researching the causes of gun violence in 1996, and the United States Congress has repeatedly blocked funding for such research; and

WHEREAS, former United States President Barack Obama issued a memorandum in 2013 directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other federal agencies to conduct or sponsor research into the causes of gun violence and ways to prevent it; and

WHEREAS, numerous national organizations, including the American Medical Association, have called on the United States Congress to support gun violence research; and

WHEREAS, firearms violence research will enable policymakers to better understand the scale and causes of firearms violence and identify successful methods to reduce or prevent firearms violence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the United States Congress is urged to support and

fund the scientific study of firearms violence and prevention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY

MAR - 9 2018