

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.306

Reps. Morse, Weiss, Pohutsky, Manoogian, Anthony, Camilleri, Sowerby, Clemente, Steckloff, Hope, Cambensy, Steenland, Hertel, Sabo, Stone, Kuppa, LaGrand, Brixie, Glanville, Puri, Rogers, Brabec, Young, Cherry, Hood and Jones offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the United States Congress to fund
2 scientific research on gun violence and its effects on public
3 health, and to require the Surgeon General of the United States to
4 issue annual reports to the public on the current state of gun
5 violence in the country.

6 Whereas, Gun violence, which includes any violence committed
7 with the use of firearms, continues to threaten the public health
8 of our citizens. An average of 100 people per day die from gun
9 violence in the United States. In addition, the United States
10 accounts for 35 percent of firearm suicides globally, and Americans

1 are 25 times more likely to be killed by gun violence than people
2 in other high-income countries; and

3 Whereas, In order to develop solutions to address gun
4 violence, we need a better understanding of the causes, processes,
5 and impact of all types of gun violence, including violent
6 conflicts, suicides, and mass shootings. Research allows the public
7 health community to define the problems associated with gun
8 violence, identify risks and protective factors, and develop
9 preventive interventions; and

10 Whereas, Providing funding to the Centers for Disease Control
11 and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the National
12 Institute of Justice will allow for a broad database of scientific
13 knowledge to be created for the development of meaningful
14 interventions as our understanding of gun violence expands; and

15 Whereas, Further, gun violence research should be made
16 available to the general public. Not only does this transparency
17 foster trust, but informed individuals have the power to change
18 their behaviors and work alongside systematic reform; and

19 Whereas, For over two decades, Congress has blocked any
20 appropriations for gun violence research citing legislation enacted
21 in 1996 to prohibit public funds from being used to advocate or
22 promote gun control. Although not specifically prohibited, the
23 language has been interpreted as a ban on funding. Scientific
24 research must and can stand outside of politics for the betterment
25 of public health; now, therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
27 United States Congress to fund scientific research on gun violence
28 and its effect on public health; and be it further

29 Resolved, That we urge the Surgeon General of the United

1 States to issue annual reports to the public regarding the state of
2 gun violence in the country; and be it further

3 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
4 President of the United States, the President of the United States
5 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
6 the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the
7 Surgeon General of the United States.