



Resolution Supporting the Goals and Ideals of “National Nonviolence Week” to Raise Awareness of Youth Violence in the United States

Congresswoman Nikema Williams recognizes the toll that violence has taken on youth development, safety and security, and promotes the goals of mitigation violence and creating a more peaceful society built on mutual respect, dignity, and equality.

As **youth violence is becoming increasingly common in United States society**, the practice of nonviolence may serve as a tool to dismantle egregious acts such as school shootings and other forms of mass shootings, bullying, and the continued violence plaguing United States communities.

The principle of nonviolence has been central to the goals of the civil rights movement, and provides a strong example of the power of nonviolence philosophy and how it may be used to create change.

This week, recognizing the importance of youth nonviolent movements as an engine for social change, was established through the work of Sojourn to the Past. This program brings high school students on an immersive tour through the history of the modern civil rights movement. The Sojourn to the Past program has afforded participating students with a life-changing experience by allowing them to visit the American South and serves as a catalyst for them to become activists and apply nonviolence principles throughout their lives and professions.

This resolution establishes that the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of “National Nonviolence Week” to raise awareness of youth violence in the United States and the benefits of practicing nonviolence principles; and **encourages the people of the United States, State and local officials, middle schools and high schools, law enforcement agencies, and other interested groups to observe “National Nonviolence Week”** with appropriate programs and activities that promote awareness and prevention of youth violence.

