

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 90

Expressing the sense of Congress that all Members mourn the loss of life at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, and condemn this and previous incidents of deadly violence in our Nation's schools.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 1999

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mrs. JONES of Ohio) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that all Members mourn the loss of life at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, and condemn this and previous incidents of deadly violence in our Nation's schools.

Whereas it is clear that school violence is a national problem, as the country has witnessed increasing acts of intense violence in Springfield, Oregon, Fayetteville, Tennessee, Edinboro, Pennsylvania, Jonesboro, Arkansas, West Paducah, Kentucky, and Pearl, Mississippi;

Whereas this increased violence in our schools not only clouds the educational environment, making it harder for students of all ages to obtain a quality education and pursue

their dreams, but also rips at the heart of our communities;

Whereas this specter of violence robs parents of their children, students of their friends, and society of its future leaders;

Whereas these incidents of violence raise many questions about why some individuals turn to guns and hatred to express their frustrations with the world, and about our inability to reach out to them before it is too late;

Whereas the anguish that consumes some children and leads them to destructive behavior must be addressed;

Whereas 57 percent of violent crimes committed by juveniles occur on school days;

Whereas a comprehensive system to address crime in our Nation's schools is not in place and it is necessary to ensure that every school has a professional trained to recognize and combat school-related crime, disorder problems, and the signs of gang and drug activity;

Whereas our schools should be havens for the pursuit of knowledge, not places where children fear for their safety;

Whereas we should expand crime prevention efforts for students and educate school-age individuals in crime prevention, conflict resolution, and personal safety;

Whereas we should provide our communities with the resources necessary to prevent juvenile crime, but funding for school resource officers in our schools is insufficient; and

Whereas we should establish school-based partnerships between local law enforcement agencies and local school systems by using school resource officers who operate in

and around elementary and secondary schools to combat school-related crime, such as the Community Oriented Policing Services program: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of Congress that we
- 2 must redouble our efforts to combat school violence and
- 3 expand community justice initiatives for students by in-
- 4 creasing funding for school resource officers through the
- 5 Community Oriented Policing Services program.

