

**STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION 2018-108**

**TITLE:** Resolution Honoring the Lives of the Victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Highschool Shootings, and supporting the #NeverAgain movement to end gun violence

**AUTHORS:** Senator Paulo Bazan and Senator Dean Hasan

**SPONSORS:** Senate President Ian Green, Senator AviChaim Snyder, Senator Griffen Bloshinsky, Senator Chad Grodi, Senator Matthew Toplak, Senator Stephanie Watson, Senator Dakota Stanford, Senator Lisette Pellot, Senator Anmol Shah, Senator Whitney Nguyen, Senator Derek Ro, Senator Katelyn Hernandez, Senator Sophia Bond, Senator Andrea Rangel, Senator Patrick Lee, Senator Zachariah Chou, Senator Dylan Santalo, Senator Fraleigh Krause, Senator Joel Kratt, Senator Benjamin Lima, Senator Rachel Muller, Senator Maria Perez

**WHEREAS**, on the afternoon of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas Highschool in Parkland, Florida, 14 students and 3 staff members were shot and killed by a lone gunman; and,

**WHEREAS**, the names (and ages) of these victims were: Alyssa Alhadeef (14), Scott Beigel (35), Martin Duque (14), Nicholas Dworet (17), Aaron Feis (37), Jaime Guttenburg (14), Chris Hixon (49), Luke Hoyer (15), Cara Loughran (14), Gina Montalto (14), Joaquin Oliver (17), Alaina Petty (14), Meadow Pollack (18), Helena Ramsay (17), Alex Schachter (14), Carmen Schentrup (16), and Peter Wang (15) 1; and,

**WHEREAS**, a geography teacher, Scott Beigel, was fatally shot after unlocking a classroom for students to hide in, which saved the lives of those students when the gunman did not enter the room1; and,

**WHEREAS**, Aaron Feis, the assistant football coach, was shot and killed as he put himself in front of two students to shield them from gunfire1; and,

**WHEREAS**, Peter Wang, a 15-year-old JROTC cadet, was shot in his JROTC uniform holding the door open for students who were fleeing from the shooting1; and,

**WHEREAS**, Anthony Borges, a 15-year-old student who was shot 5 times while keeping the gunman from entering a room with 20 other students inside, is currently in stable condition after undergoing several surgeries2; and,

**WHEREAS**, the survivors of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shootings have started the #NeverAgain movement to end gun violence in memory of their fallen teachers and classmates3; and,

**WHEREAS**, thousands of students around the country are participating in protests, walk-outs, and lie-ins in support of the #NeverAgain movement<sup>4</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of Broward County and Palm Beach County students organized a mass walk-out and protest on February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018, where they walked together to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to pay their respects to the victims and their families [5][6]; and,

**WHEREAS**, some students walked upwards of 12 miles from their schools to make it to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School<sup>5</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 thousands of students in Tallahassee, Florida marched on the Old Capitol building in support of the #NeverAgain movement<sup>7</sup> the day after the Florida House of Representatives failed to consider a bill that would ban assault rifles<sup>8</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University of Florida has a large community of students from Broward County, some of which lived in Parkland and are graduates of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School; and,

**WHEREAS**, a tragedy that affects any group of students at the University of Florida, affects all of us as a united Gator Nation; then,

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate wishes to honor the lives of the 17 victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate commemorates the heroic actions of Scott Beigel, Aaron Feis, Peter Wang, and Anthony Borges for putting the lives of others before their own in the face of danger.

**THEREFORE, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate stands with students across the nation, the families of the victims, and all of those affected by the shootings.

**THEREFORE, LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED** that the University of Florida Student Senate fully supports the #NeverAgain movement to end gun violence in hopes that a tragedy like this is never allowed to happen again.

 2-28-18

Ian Green  
Senate President

Date

*Proviso: A copy of this resolution shall be sent to President W. Kent Fuchs, Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Richard Corcoran, Florida Governor Rick Scott, and Principal of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Ty Thompson.*

- 1 <https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/15/us/florida-shooting-victims-school/index.html>
- 2 <http://people.com/crime/heroic-15-yr-old-shot-5-times-saving-20-students/>
- 3 <https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/how-the-survivors-of-parkland-began-the-never-again-movement>
- 4 <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2018/02/19/587089773/teens-lie-in-at-white-house-to-protest-for-stronger-gun-control>
- 5 <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/broward/article201075414.html>
  
- 6 <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/local/broward/parkland/florida-school-shooting/fl-florida-school-shooting-student-walkouts-20180220-story.html>
- 7 <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/neveragain-thousands-students-descend-florida-s-capital-gun-reform-rally-n849971>
- 8 <https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/Florida-Rifle-Ban-Motion-Fails-How-Representatives-Voted-474647093.html>