

HR1029

LRB100 21771 MST 39419 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On February 14, 2018, 17 people lost their lives 3 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida in 4 the 9th deadliest mass shooting in modern United States' 5 history; and

6 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the shooting, survivors banded 7 together to exercise their first amendment rights and call for 8 action to prevent similar tragedies from occurring; and

9 WHEREAS, In response to Parkland survivors exercising 10 their first amendment rights, some have gone beyond policy 11 disagreements with the survivors and resorted to ad hominem 12 attacks; and

13 WHEREAS, Breibart collected and published memes comparing 14 survivor and activist David Hogg to Hitler; and

15 WHEREAS, National Rifle Association board member Ted 16 Nugent claimed Parkland survivors are liars, poor mush-brained 17 children, and soulless; and

18 WHEREAS, Conspiracy theorist Alex Jones created a video of 19 survivor David Hogg's March for Our Lives Speech dubbed with an 20 Adolf Hitler speech as well as another video comparing Emma HR1029 -2- LRB100 21771 MST 39419 r
1 Gonzalez and other March for Our Lives attendees as Hitler
2 Youth; he has pushed theories that March for Our Lives
3 organizers are being given scripts, insinuating that they are
4 actors; and

5 WHEREAS, Congressman Steve King of Iowa posted a meme 6 mocking survivor Emma Gonzalez for her Cuban heritage; and

7 WHEREAS, A photo-shopped image of Emma Gonzalez ripping up 8 the constitution has gone viral on the fringe websites of the 9 internet; and

10 WHEREAS, There have been countless other attacks on 11 Parkland survivors including, but not limited to, calling them 12 crisis actors or skinheads; and

13 WHEREAS, Fox News host Laura Ingraham mocked David Hogg for 14 getting rejected by universities; and

15 WHEREAS, Parkland is not the first time conspiratorial and 16 character attacks have been directed towards victims of mass 17 shootings which is reflected by a defamation lawsuit filed by 18 parents of Sandy Hook victims against Alex Jones; and

WHEREAS, These attacks on victims and survivors of massshootings not only inflict psychological pain, but also may

HR1029 -3- LRB100 21771 MST 39419 r compromise the safety of those involved; and

2 WHEREAS, Conversations regarding policy disagreements 3 strengthen public discourse, and ad hominem attacks on victims 4 of mass shootings have no place in civilized discourse; and

1

5 WHEREAS, As a nation we should support victims and 6 survivors of mass shootings in their time of suffering; 7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE 9 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we 10 express our deepest condolences to the victims and survivors of 11 the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting and their 12 families; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we condemn those who inflict undue suffering 14 on them through ad hominem attacks which go beyond the realm of 15 reasonable policy disagreements; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of the Illinois House of 17 Representatives that this type of discourse has no place in 18 civilized society.