

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 737

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the relationship between firearm violence and intimate partner violence and to honor the memory of Gladys Ricart and other victims of intimate partner homicide killed by firearms, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Ms. JACKSON LEE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the relationship between firearm violence and intimate partner violence and to honor the memory of Gladys Ricart and other victims of intimate partner homicide killed by firearms, and for other purposes.

Whereas domestic violence perpetrated with a firearm disproportionately affects millions of American adults and children, with a particular impact on women;

Whereas, according to recent data, nearly 92 percent of women killed by firearms in high-income countries in an average year are from the United States;

Whereas firearms are used in nearly 66 percent of cases where women are killed by their intimate partners;

Whereas every month an average of 57 women are killed with a firearm by an intimate partner;

Whereas an American woman is killed with a firearm by a current or former partner around every 12 hours;

Whereas approximately 59 percent of mass shootings in recent years were connected to instances of domestic or intimate partner violence;

Whereas only 16 percent of victims in domestic violence-related mass shootings survive such incidents compared to 37 percent of victims in mass shootings unrelated to domestic violence;

Whereas nearly 1 in 10 United States adults have experienced nonfatal firearm abuse at the hands of an intimate partner, such as being threatened directly with a firearm or by a partner who possessed or had easy access to a firearm;

Whereas, when an abusive partner has access to a firearm, a female victim of such abuse is five times more likely to be killed;

Whereas 80 percent of firearm intimate partner homicide victims are female;

Whereas the deadly intersection of firearms and intimate partner violence affects all women, but it has a disproportionate impact on Black women, American Indian/Alaska Native women, and Hispanic women in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 3 Hispanic women in the United States experience intimate partner violence during their lifetime;

Whereas more than half of American Indian and Alaska Native women experience physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and

Whereas compared to non-Hispanic White women, Black women in the United States are three times more likely to be fatally shot by an intimate partner, and nearly five times more likely to be fatally shot between the ages of 18 and 34: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That—

2           (1) the House of Representatives—

3               (A) recognizes the relationship between  
4               firearm violence and intimate partner violence;

5               (B) commends domestic violence victim ad-  
6               vocates, domestic violence victim service pro-  
7               viders, crisis hotline staff, and first responders  
8               serving victims of domestic violence for their  
9               compassionate support of survivors of domestic  
10              violence; and

11             (C) pledges to fund comprehensive re-  
12             search on the nexus of firearms and intimate  
13             partner violence, including the disproportionate  
14             impact on Black, American Indian/Alaska Na-  
15             tive, and Hispanic people; and

16             (2) it is the sense of the House of Representa-  
17             tives that the Congress should—

18               (A) strengthen the National Instant Crimi-  
19               nal Background Check System to keep firearms

1 out of the hands of those who are prohibited  
2 from possessing them;

3 (B) restrict access to firearms by all people  
4 subject to domestic violence restraining orders;

5 (C) continue to support programs designed  
6 to assist survivors of domestic violence, hold  
7 perpetrators of domestic violence accountable,  
8 and bring an end to domestic violence;

9 (D) continue to support local relinquish-  
10 ment processes to ensure compliance with Fed-  
11 eral firearm prohibitions in domestic violence  
12 cases; and

13 (E) immediately consider H.R. 905, the  
14 Strengthening Protections for Domestic Vio-  
15 lence and Stalking Survivors Act of 2023, H.R.  
16 715, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of  
17 2023, and all other relevant legislation that is  
18 targeted towards reducing the risk of firearm  
19 violence, reducing the risk of intimate partner  
20 violence, and recognizing and combatting the  
21 deadly relationship between the two.

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