

# House Resolution 15 - Introduced

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY GAINES

1 A Resolution honoring the responders to the March 7,  
2 2022, East High School shooting.

3 WHEREAS, on March 7, 2022, approximately 40 shots  
4 were fired at students from vehicles in front of East  
5 High School in Des Moines; and

6 WHEREAS, campus monitor Jontay Williams and  
7 associate principal Anthony Gianaras responded to the  
8 situation within one minute by moving the school into  
9 an external lockdown, contacting 911 for the three  
10 students who had been shot, and immediately relocated  
11 to where the students had been shot to secure the area  
12 and tend to the students; and

13 WHEREAS, associate principal Lisa Harrington rapidly  
14 executed lockdown protocols to prevent further harm to  
15 students; and

16 WHEREAS, campus monitor Larry Mason, associate  
17 principal Rich Newkirk, teacher Trisha Buckley, and  
18 juvenile court liaison Jill McIlhon rushed to Mr.  
19 Williams and Mr. Gianaras's position to comfort, hold,  
20 and tend to students who had been shot or escaped from  
21 the shooting until paramedics and law enforcement  
22 arrived, and continued to support students after  
23 emergency responders arrived; and

24 WHEREAS, paramedics and law enforcement arrived at  
25 the scene within minutes and immediately mobilized to  
26 provide medical care and protect the school; and

27 WHEREAS, director of high schools Mike Vukovich  
28 assisted in coordinating with school staff to procure

1 resources for East High School after the shooting; and

2 WHEREAS, the teachers of East High School maintained  
3 calm in their classrooms throughout the lockdown in a  
4 situation that could have easily led to panic; and

5 WHEREAS, associate principal William Crosby  
6 coordinated with others throughout the campus to  
7 track the whereabouts of each person in the school and  
8 dismiss students in an orderly fashion that would not  
9 interfere with emergency responders; and

10 WHEREAS, the office staff for East High School were  
11 highly active in communicating with emergency services,  
12 students, and student families to provide everyone with  
13 as much information and services as possible; and

14 WHEREAS, in the tragedy two students sustained  
15 critical injuries and a third suffered fatal  
16 wounds; and

17 WHEREAS, bilingual family liaison Rosario Jimenez  
18 comforted and supported the families of the victims at  
19 the time of the shooting and in the days to follow; NOW  
20 THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That  
22 the House of Representatives honors the staff, faculty,  
23 and first responders at East High School for their  
24 extraordinary courage, professionalism, and compassion  
25 in the face of a deadly shooting on March 7, 2022, and  
26 in the days following; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this  
28 resolution, the chief clerk of the House shall transmit  
29 a copy of this resolution to Jill Versteeg, principal  
30 of East High School.