

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, gun violence can devastate the peace of mind of and impart post-traumatic stress on entire communities, especially when the violence is directed towards individuals based on ethnicity, gender, sexuality, or other characteristics; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the sale of firearms drastically increased across the nation, increasing in California by 65.5 percent, and was accompanied by a similar surge in gun violence incidents; and

WHEREAS, while the State of California's gun safety regulations are among the strongest in the nation and correlate to comparatively lower instances of gun violence, each and every loss of life to gun violence communicates the urgent need for further measures; and

WHEREAS, the economic impacts of gun violence are also acute, limiting the creation of generational wealth in communities that experience high firearm violence; and impose significant fiscal burdens on local governments, diverting funding for community improvement; and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform reported that each firearm homicide in Stockton, California resulted in at least \$2.5 million in direct government costs; and

WHEREAS, AB 1223 (2021), and AB 1227 (2022), introduced by Assemblymember Gabriel, proposed an excise tax on firearms and ammunition similar to the federal excise tax levied on gun manufacturers, but failed to gain approval from the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the California State Legislature is AB 28 (Gabriel) which expresses the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would enact a tax on firearms and ammunition to protect against gun violence; and

WHEREAS, according to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, an excise tax comparable with the federal excise tax levied on gun manufacturers and distributors could generate \$110 million in one year; and

WHEREAS, an excise tax could serve to discourage the purchase of guns, as well as concurrently generate revenue that can be leveraged to fund firearm safety and violence prevention programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 28 (Gabriel) which expresses the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would enact a tax on firearms and ammunition to protect against gun violence.

PRESENTED BY:



TRACI PARK

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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