



## A RESOLUTION

TO EXPRESS THE CITY'S SUPPORT FOR ADVANCING REASONABLE GUN LEGISLATION, INCLUDING LEGISLATION TO KEEP GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS, GREATER SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SALE, TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND PURCHASE OF A GUN, ENACTING MANDATORY MINIMUM/MAXIMUM PENALTIES FOR GUN VIOLATIONS, IMPROVING BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS AND TO PERMIT LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES TO ADOPT LAWS RESTRICTING THE INAPPROPRIATE ACCESS TO GUNS AND THE NEGLIGENT STORAGE OF A WEAPON.

WHEREAS, gun violence is rampant in our society; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control, there were approximately 2,508 firearm deaths in South Carolina during the period of 2014 through 2016 and,

WHEREAS, understanding that there is a complex interaction of risk factors, societal influences, mental health statuses, and other known factors that lead to violence, access to firearms is highly associated with the increased risk of injury and death; and,

WHEREAS, firearms can be used to intimidate, coerce, or carry out threats of violence. Fatal and nonfatal firearm violence poses a serious threat to the safety and welfare of our citizens, and,

WHEREAS, exposure to gun violence is highly associated with the diminished social, emotional, and academic well-being among our communities; and,

WHEREAS, the City understands that gun violence cannot totally be prevented, but it also understands that reasonable actions can be taken to reduce the amount of gun violence in our State and our local communities; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council of Charleston recognizes gun violence as representing a significant health risk to the citizens of the City of Charleston, the State of South Carolina, and the United States of America; and,

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in our local community and the State of South Carolina should be one of the highest responsibilities for our elected officials, and,

WHEREAS, the City's support for appropriate and measured gun legislation and request for action by our State legislature in no way diminishes the City's support for the second amendment and the right of gun ownership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON, IN COUNCIL ASSEMBLED, THAT THE CITY PETITIONS OUR STATE LEGISLATURE, AT A MINIMUM:

1. TO ADVANCE REASONABLE, RATIONAL, FAIR GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION ~~THAT MEETS~~ THE CONDITIONS OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT; AND,
2. TO ENACT MANDATORY MINIMUM/MAXIMUM PENALTIES FOR GUN LAW OFFENDERS ALONG WITH INCREASING PENALTIES FOR MULTIPLE OFFENSES; AND,
3. ADOPT LEGISLATION TO KEEP GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS AND PROHIBITED PURCHASERS; AND,
4. CONSIDER ENACTING GREATER SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SALE, TRANSPORT, STORAGE, AND PURCHASE OF A GUN; AND,
5. ENACT POLICIES TO IMPROVE AWARENESS OF SAFE GUN PRACTICES, INCLUDING SECURE STORAGE OF FIREARMS; AND,
6. FINALLY, TO AMEND STATE LEGISLATION TO PERMIT LOCAL ENTITIES TO ADOPT LAWS TO RESTRICT THE INAPPROPRIATE ACCESS TO GUNS AND THE NEGLIGENT STORAGE OF A WEAPON.

Ratified in City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year of Our Lord, 2016, and in the \_\_\_\_ Year of the Independence of the United States of America.

By:

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John J. Tecklenburg  
Mayor, City of Charleston

ATTEST:

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Vanessa Turner Maybank  
Clerk of Council