

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Expressing Concern for Public Safety and Urging State and Federal Action on Firearms in Sensitive Places

RECITALS

A. The U.S. Supreme Court held in *N.Y. State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n v. Bruen* (2022), 142 S. Ct. 2111, that firearms regulations must be “consistent with the Nation’s historical tradition of firearm regulation.”

B. The Supreme Court has said that laws prohibiting the carrying of firearms in certain “sensitive places,” including “schools and government buildings,” and “legislative assemblies, polling places, and courthouses,” may be consistent with the Second Amendment. *N.Y. State Rifle & Pistol Ass’n v. Bruen* (2022), 142 S. Ct. 2111; *D.C. v. Heller* (2008), 554 U.S. 570.

C. Subsequent court decisions, applying *Bruen*, have invalidated legislative provisions designating other locations as “sensitive.”

D. On March 6, 2023, the City Council adopted emergency and standard ordinances prohibiting the possession of firearms in the sensitive places that have been recognized by the Supreme Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto RESOLVES as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Palo Alto is deeply concerned for the safety of its residents given the epidemic of gun violence in our county, state, and country.

SECTION 2. But for recent Supreme Court and other court decisions that substantially reduce the City’s ability to ban firearms more broadly, the City of Palo Alto would prohibit firearms in a broader range of places.

SECTION 3. The City calls on state and federal officials to do all they can to address this issue and broaden the list of sensitive places where firearms may be prohibited.

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SECTION 4. The Council finds that the adoption of this resolution does not meet the definition of a project under Public Resources Code Section 21065, thus, no environmental assessment under the California Environmental Quality Act is required.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager