

Resolution
Call for Legislation to
Establish Reasonable Firearms Controls and Restrictions,
Safe Storage, and Firearms Safety Instruction

1 **WHEREAS** the AR-15 assault weapon is increasingly becoming the weapon of choice in mass shootings at
2 schools and other public venues;

3 **WHEREAS** the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, stating that a well regulated militia is
4 necessary to protect the security of a free state, does not establish a right of private ownership of
5 assault rifles such as the M-16 and therefore should not be read as establishing a right of private
6 ownership of assault weapons such as the AR-15;

7 **WHEREAS** the 1996 Dickey Amendment says, “none of the funds made available for injury prevention
8 and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) may be used to advocate or
9 promote gun control” and that this amendment has been used to prevent the study of and reporting of
10 gun related violence, injury, and death;

11 **WHEREAS** “gun show loopholes” do not require private party sellers to ask for identification, perform
12 background checks, or record the sale of firearms, “as long as they do not know or have reasonable
13 cause to believe the person is prohibited from receiving or possessing firearms”;

14 **WHEREAS** “Ghost Guns” are firearms built from partially completed receivers without serial numbers,
15 allowing the assembly of a variety of firearms that have no serial number, including the AR-15, thereby
16 circumventing background checks and registration;

17 **WHEREAS** fourteen states impose criminal liability on parents when a child gains access to firearms due
18 to negligent storage (California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts,
19 Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Texas);

20 **WHEREAS** liability insurance is a requirement for operating a motor vehicle and other potentially
21 dangerous or deadly items;

22 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the 38th Legislative District Democrats of Washington State, call
23 on elected officials in Olympia, Washington and Washington D.C. to pass legislation that bans private
24 ownership of assault weapons as defined by the Federal Assault Weapons Ban of 2013 (proposed);

25 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for a repeal of the 1996 Dickey Amendment;

26 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation that requires a 5 business day waiting
27 period on the sale of any and all firearms;

28 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we urge the swift digitization and indexing of all existing gun
29 registration records, and call for the requirement that all future firearms sales be recorded and indexed
30 digitally;

31 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation that will close all gun show loopholes;

32 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation that will require all prospective
33 firearms purchasers to undergo and clear a background check prior to any firearms purchase, and that
34 the burden of these clearances shall be on the purchaser;

35 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation to prohibit the manufacture, creation,
36 possession and sale of any firearms receiver without serial numbers, irrespective of its completion;

37 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation that requires firearms owners to also
38 own an approved gun security system for their firearms;

39 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for the legislature to investigate whether the
40 purchase of liability insurance is legally enforceable and possible to require;

41 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation in Washington State that requires any
42 firearm owners to store firearms in such a way to restrict access by minor children, and that holds
43 firearms owners or those possessing firearms criminally liable for minor children accessing firearms and
44 using them in the commission of any crime or in any accidental injury or death;

45 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call for legislation in Washington State that requires the
46 completion of and periodic recertification in firearms safety, and that further requires showing proof of
47 completion of such a course or recertification prior to the purchase of any firearm or the receipt of any
48 firearm due to a transfer in ownership.

Submitted by Jack Lockhart via the Washington State 38th Legislative District Democrats Executive Board to the general membership and passed by the body at its April 25, 2018 meeting in Everett, for forwarding to Washington State Democratic Central Committee.