

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNOR TO SIGN ASSEMBLY BILL 61 “GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS”

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, over the past decade more than 100,000 Americans have been killed by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 alone there were more than 15,500 people killed or injured by firearms in the United States, including almost 4,000 children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, from 2014 to 2017, there have been over 1,300 mass shootings (incidents with 4 or more people killed or injured); and

WHEREAS, from 2000 to 2019 mass shootings have been on the rise, with the majority of them occurring on school campuses and in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, there are over 500 workplace homicides each year, with firearms accounting for approximately 80% of those killings; and

WHEREAS, more than 60 percent of people in this country who die from guns die by suicide, and suicide is the second-most common cause of death for Americans between the ages of 15 and 34; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 on February 14 in Parkland, Florida, 17 people were killed and 17 more were injured at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School, all by firearms by

a shooter who was a former student of the school, and there had been several warnings raised about his potential for violence, and this bill would have provided school employees the opportunity to petition a court for a gun violence restraining order based on these warning signs; and

WHEREAS, this year on August 4 in Dayton, Ohio, nine people were killed and 27 more were injured in the nightlife district and it was common knowledge amongst the shooter's former classmates that he had an obsession with violence and mass shootings, and this bill would have provided people the opportunity to act on these warning signs; and

WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill 61 limits access to certain deadly weapons and addresses the need to limit access to firearms by persons who are exhibiting signs of becoming a danger to themselves or others by amending existing law to enable an employer, a coworker, or an employee of a high school or college to request that a court issue a gun violence restraining order prohibiting such persons from owning, purchasing, possessing, receiving, or having in their custody or control a firearm or ammunition; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 61 strikes the right balance between preserving constitutional rights and prioritizing the safety of our citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County urges the Governor to sign Assembly Bill 61.

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