

To the Town of Sangerfield's Representatives in Congress, A Resolution Urging New Gun Control and Mental Health Measures

WHEREAS as of June 8, 248 mass shooting incidents had taken place in the United States in 2022, and

WHEREAS these incidents, defined by the nonprofit Gun Violence Archive as those in which four or more victims were shot (excluding the shooter), included 12 mass murders in which at least four victims died, and

WHEREAS assault-style weapons have been implicated in at least four of this year's mass murders, including the slaughter of 22 people, most of them children, on May 24 at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, and the murder of 10 people including a security guard on May 14 at a Tops supermarket in Buffalo, NY, and

WHEREAS assault-style weapons also were used in at least six mass murders over the past decade, according to a National Public Radio report on May 26, to wit:

- Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, Fla., Feb. 14, 2018, 17 people dead;
- Las Vegas Strip, Oct. 1, 2017, 58 people dead;
- Sutherland Springs, Texas, church, Nov. 5, 2017, 26 people dead;
- Pulse Nightclub, Orlando, Fla., June 12, 2016, 49 people dead;
- San Bernardino, Calif, Dec. 2, 2015, 14 people dead;
- Sandy Hook Elementary School, Newtown, Conn., Dec. 14, 2012, 27 people dead; and

WHEREAS while the mental stability of many perpetrators of mass shootings has been called into question, too often their issues have gone undetected, under-reported or under-treated until after they act, and

WHEREAS the perpetrators in many cases had been able to obtain their weapons despite so-called red flag laws, and

WHEREAS the perpetrators in some cases had obtained their weapons within hour or days of their attacks, and

WHEREAS a federal ban on AR-15 and similar semiautomatic rifles in effect between 1994 and 2004 coincided with a reduction in mass shootings compared with the previous decade and the following decade,

THEREFORE the Town of Sangerfield Democratic Committee urges Congress to pass and President Joe Biden to sign legislation that would

- Permanently ban sales of AR-15 and similar military-style assault weapons;
- Allow private sales of any firearms to be conducted only through the agency of a federally licensed firearms dealer who would make required background checks;
- Restrict sales of firearms to adults 21 or older;
- Ban sales of firearms over the Internet;

- Ban internet sales of parts used to modify semi-automatic weapons into automatic weapons or weapons capable of rapidly firing a large number of rounds;
- Require a 30-day waiting period before a firearms sale is consummated;
- Establish federal standards for firearms purchases, licensing, concealed and open carrying, background checks and registry and encourage state adoption by making federal funding for local and state policing dependent on compliance;
- Ban all advertisement of firearms in print, on broadcast media, on the Internet, by electronic mail, on social media, through the U.S. Mail or any future medium;
- Require arms manufacturers to install permanent labels warning owners that firearms are potentially lethal weapons whose misuse could result in death or injury;
- Require ammunition manufacturers to include similar warning labels on each box of ammunition;
- Make mental health screening and treatment a national health priority, available to all Americans and paid by the federal government;
- Amend the Constitution to take into account the destructive firepower and accuracy of 21st Century firearms and to properly place the right to bear arms within the context of a well-regulated government-controlled militia.

Adopted this 28th day of June, 2022.

Respectfully,

Town of Sangerfield Democratic Committee