

THE CITY OF CRANSTON

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO PASS LEGISLATION BANNING
GUNS IN SCHOOL.**

No.

Passed:

Michael J Farina, Council President

Resolved, That

WHEREAS, current state law allows Concealed Carry Permit (“CCP”) holders to carry firearms onto school grounds; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of states do not permit firearms on school grounds; and

WHEREAS, a study by the Violence Policy Center, a Washington D.C. gun safety organization, found, from May 2007 to February 2015, that in research involving 622 deaths in 544 concealed-carry shootings in 36 states and the District of Columbia, the vast majority of those killings were deemed non-self-defense and only 16 cases were eventually ruled lawful self-defense; and

WHEREAS, a two year comprehensive Final Report of the Sandy Hook Advisory Commission, consisting of school administrators, teachers, law enforcement, psychiatrists, lawmakers and legal professionals, dated February 2015, made findings including “Safe School Climate” and “Safe School Design and Operations Strategies” that specifically did not include the use of firearms or the arming teachers or non-law enforcement civilians in schools; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Association of School Committees' Executive Board have voted to support banning concealed weapons on school grounds, except for duly authorized members of law enforcement;

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island School Superintendents' Association has adopted the School Superintendents' Association "AASA Position Paper on School Safety: a response to the Tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary", which specifically denounces "efforts to bring more guns into our schools by teachers and administrators," and reminds us that "schools remain the safest place for children"; and

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47 **WHEREAS**, the Rhode Island Association of School Principals Executive Board
48 has voted to endorse and support the ban on concealed weapons on school grounds,
49 except for authorized members of law enforcement, holding to its core belief that school
50 environments should be devoid of all conditions that may compromise the safety of
51 students and staff; and

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53 **WHEREAS**, legislation to ban people, except police officers, from carrying
54 concealed weapons in schools has been endorsed by the Rhode Island League of Cities
55 and Towns,

56 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cranston City Council
57 respectfully requests the Rhode Island General Assembly introduce and pass legislative
58 proposals that would prohibit non-law enforcement to carry concealed firearms onto
59 school grounds.

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61 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk forward a certified copy of
62 this Resolution to the Cranston Delegation of the Rhode Island General Assembly
63 seeking their consideration and support.

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65 66p Sponsored by Councilman Lanni