



Legislation Text

File #: 70882, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

The proposed resolution authorizes the City Attorney, in consultation with the Mayor, to join the City as amicus in cases supporting reasonable and effective firearm regulation or which promote or impact Madison's policies and programs to help combat firearms violence. No fiscal impacts are anticipated. No appropriation is required.

Title

Supporting the reasonable regulation of firearms to assist in helping to remedy public health concerns stemming from firearms violence in the City of Madison, and authorizing the City Attorney, in consultation with the Mayor, to join the City as amicus in cases related to firearm regulation which promote or impact Madison's policies and programs to help combat firearms violence.

Body

WHEREAS, the Madison Police Department reports that weapons-related violations increased by 37% from 2018 - 2021 in the local Madison community; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 45,222 firearm deaths occurred in 2020 in the United States, 13.7% more than traffic accident deaths that occurred in the United States that year; and

WHEREAS, as of 2021, the State of Wisconsin, according to Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund's independent research, has the 34th highest rate of gun violence in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the City of Madison tied its own previous record high for homicides with 10 homicides in 2021; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated by Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund's independent research that 74% of all homicides reported in Wisconsin in 2021 involved a firearm; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated by the Everytown for Gun Safety Support fund's findings that 70% of firearm deaths in Wisconsin in 2021 occurred from suicide, ten percent higher than the nationwide average of 60%; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in 2019, 56% of domestic partner homicides were committed with a firearm; and

WHEREAS, according to Everytown for Gun Safety Support fund, Wisconsin's current state laws regulating firearms and weapons in public spaces are weak and require improvements, because current state laws do not strongly regulate the concealed carry of weapons in public spaces and also do not allow authorities to bar concealed carry by people who pose a danger.

WHEREAS, firearm violence is a public health issue because firearms lead to a large number of deaths both in Wisconsin and across the country and also firearm violence injures a large number of individuals leaving them with potential lifelong health issues; and

WHEREAS, Public Health Madison & Dane County has begun working to implement programs and strategies to help combat violence in local communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Madison Common Council and City of Madison support Public Health Madison & Dane County in its efforts to combat violence in local communities and support reasonable regulations of firearms possession; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the City Attorney, in consultation with the Mayor, is authorized to join the City as amicus in cases supporting reasonable and effective firearm regulation or which promote or impact Madison's policies and programs to help combat firearms violence.