

## CITY OF OBERLIN, OHIO

### RESOLUTION No. R16-02 CMS

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CITY COUNCIL'S OPPOSITION TO HOUSE BILL 48, CURRENTLY BEFORE THE SENATE GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT AND REFORM COMMITTEE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Oberlin is dedicated to protecting the safety of its citizens and their right to peaceful enjoyment of public and private spaces and institutions; and

WHEREAS, in light of the epidemic of gun violence taking place across our nation and the general sense of fear and apprehension that the prevalence of firearms creates, the City of Oberlin holds that the laws expanding the possession of guns in areas within our community undermine public confidence in the assumption of safety and security in the community and impede law enforcement agencies and their ability to maintain safety and security; and

WHEREAS, as documented by the Violence Policy Center at <http://concealedcarrykillers.org/ohio/>, accidental deaths, intentional homicides, murders and suicides have occurred in Ohio with weapons in the possession of concealed carry license owners; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 48 proposes the reduction of certain penalties for handgun offenses, lessens restrictions on places into which handguns may be carried and grants immunity from civil liability to public and private institutions of higher education which permit the carrying of concealed handguns on its premises; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 48 would open the door for concealed carry permit holders to leave their loaded weapon locked in a vehicle in a school safety zone; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 48 would open the door for concealed carry permit holders to carry their loaded weapons into day care centers; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 48 would open the door for concealed carry permit holders to carry their weapons onto public and private college / university campuses; and

WHEREAS, Ohio House Bill 48 would open the door for concealed carry permit holders to carry their loaded weapons into government buildings, public areas of police stations, and airport terminals; and

WHEREAS, the Citizens of Oberlin have adopted a municipal Charter in order to avail themselves of the opportunities for the exercise of Home Rule powers and powers of self-governance; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition of the ability of municipalities to determine where a person may carry a concealed handgun within those municipalities has undermined a sense of safety within those communities and has contributed to the accidental injuries to and deaths of innocent persons.

WHEREAS, the Ohio Conference of the American Association of University Professors and the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police oppose this legislation.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Oberlin, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That this Council hereby expresses its opposition to House Bill 48, as passed the House on November 17, 2015, which relaxes several handgun restrictions, including reducing the degree of offense for the unauthorized carrying of a concealed handgun in institutions of higher learning and modifies the list of places into which a handgun may be carried, including school safety zones, day care homes and centers, airports, certain law enforcement stations and government facilities.

SECTION 2. That this Council call upon the Ohio State Legislature to adopt common sense handgun regulations such as required background checks on all firearm purchases or transfers, to expand rather than contract, gun-free zones, to place limits on the sale of high-capacity magazines, to require an increase in the number of hours for mandatory firearm safety training and legal instruction prior to issuance or renewal of a CCW license for all persons, to require that all applicants for a concealed carry license submit fingerprints as part of the application process, and to require that the reciprocal acceptance of an out-of-state concealed carry license be conditioned upon that reciprocal state's licensing process being substantially comparable.

SECTION 3. That this Council call upon the Ohio State Legislature to revoke immunity from civil liability for private employers, including institutions of higher education, who knowingly allow and permit their employees to carry firearms on the premises and subsequently results in injury, death, or loss to person or property. With the right to bear firearms comes the responsibility to account for their use whether unintentional or deliberate.

SECTION 4. That the Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor John R. Kasich of the State of Ohio, to the Clerk of the Ohio House of Representatives and request that he forward a copy to each of the duly elected State Representatives and also forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Clerk of the Ohio Senate and request that he forward a copy to each of the duly elected State Senators.

SECTION 5. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning or relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.


SECTION 6. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of the City of Oberlin, to wit: to authorize a resolution indicating the opinion of Oberlin City Council on a matter of great importance to the citizens of the municipality in a timely manner, and shall take place immediately upon passage.


PASSED: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: March 21, 2016

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: April 4, 2016 (E)

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

  
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BELINDA B. ANDERSON, MMC  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

  
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RONNIE J. RIMBERT  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

POSTED: 04/05/2016

EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/04/2016