

ORDINANCE NO. 28321

AN ORDINANCE relating to public safety; amending Chapter 8.66 of the Tacoma Municipal Code by amending Sections 8.66.120, 8.66.130, and 8.66.140 thereof to permit the possession of air guns, air rifles, B-B guns, and slingshots, while preserving the misdemeanor offense of discharging or shooting such items in the City; and allow for a limited exception for the discharge of air guns, air rifles, and B-B guns for recreational purposes in an indoor, licensed business facility.

WHEREAS Tacoma Municipal Code ("TMC") 8.66.120 prohibits, with no exceptions, the carrying, shooting, or discharging of any air gun, air rifle, B-B gun, or slingshot in the City of Tacoma, and any person engaging in said conduct is quilty of a misdemeanor offense, and

WHEREAS TMC 8.66.130 provides that a parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18 years who knowingly permits such child to engage in conduct prohibited in TMC 8.66.120 is also guilty of a misdemeanor offense, and

WHEREAS staff desires to eliminate the criminal penalty for merely possessing an air gun, air rifle, B-B gun, or slingshot, and

WHEREAS staff further desires to allow a limited exception to TMC 8.66.120 for the purpose of allowing the shooting or discharging of an air gun, air rifle, or B-B gun for recreational purposes in an indoor, licensed business facility, and

WHEREAS the proposed TMC amendments will (1) permit the possession of air guns, air rifles, B-B guns, and slingshots, while preserving the misdemeanor offense of discharging or shooting such items in the City; and (2) create a limited exception for shooting or discharging any air gun, air rifle, or B-B gun for recreational purposes in an indoor, licensed business facility, so long as such use does not endanger persons or property, or create a public or private nuisance, and



WHEREAS the proposed amendments will allow for the issuance of a business license for recreational air gun use in such facilities, and

WHEREAS the proposed amendments were presented to the Public Safety, Human Services, and Education ("PSHSE") Committee on March 26, June 11, and August 27, 2015, and the PSHSE Committee recommended the proposed amendments for consideration by the City Council; Now, Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That Chapter 8.66 of the Municipal Code is hereby amended by amending Sections 8.66.120, 8.66.130, and 8.66.140 thereof, as set forth in the attached Exhibit "A."

12	Danad		
13	Passed		
14		Mayor	
15		Mayor	
16	Attest:		
17	City Clerk		
18	Oity Oloik		
19	Approved as to form:		
20			
21			
22	Assistant City Attorney		



EXHIBIT "A" 1 Chapter 8.66 **WEAPONS** 2 Sections: 3 8.66.010 Definitions. 8.66.020 Repealed. 4 8.66.030 Repealed. 8.66.040 Repealed. 5 8.66.050 Repealed. 8.66.060 Repealed. 6 8.66.070 Repealed. 8.66.080 Unlawful use of weapons. 7 8.66.090 Exemptions – Dangerous knives. 8.66.100 Repealed. 8 8.66.110 Repealed. 8.66.120 <u>Discharging Aair</u> guns and slingshots prohibited – <u>Exception</u>. 9 8.66.130 Air guns and slingshots – Parents permitting use. 8.66.140 Air guns and slingshots – Confiscation. 10 8.66.150 Violation – Penalty. 8.66.160 Repealed. 11 8.66.170 Repealed. 12 * * * 13 8.66.120 Discharging Aair guns and slingshots prohibited – Exception. 14 It is unlawful for any person to carry or to shoot or discharge any air gun, air rifle, B-B gun, or slingshot in the City of Tacoma, except that a person may shoot or discharge any air gun, air rifle, or B-B gun for recreational 15 purposes in a licensed indoor business facility designed and operated for such purposes, where the shooting or discharging will not endanger any person or property or create a nuisance for the public or any adjacent 16 property owner. 8.66.130 Air guns and slingshots – Parents permitting use. 17 It is unlawful for the parent or guardian of any child under the age of 18 years to knowingly permit such child 18 to carry or discharge any air gun, air rifle, B-B gun, or slingshot in the City of Tacoma, except as provided in Section 8.66.120. 19 8.66.140 Air guns and slingshots – Confiscation. 20 Whenever any person shall be convicted of violating any of the provisions of Section 8.66.120 of this chapter, the air gun, air rifle, B-B gun, or slingshot so earried or discharged shall be confiscated and ordered destroyed 21 by the Municipal Court of the City of Tacoma. 22 23 24 25 26