



RESOLUTION NO. 40473

1 BY REQUEST OF DEPUTY MAYOR McCARTHY AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
2 HUNTER AND THOMS

3 A RESOLUTION directing the City Manager to review existing gun and youth
4 violence reduction groups in Tacoma; convene a workgroup to review best
5 practices for Tacoma to address gun and youth violence reduction; and
6 review and present fiscal analyses, to include costs of expanding current
7 programs and fiscal impact of any future firearms and ammunition tax on
8 local gun vendors and manufacturers, with Council and the appropriate
9 Council Committees no later than 30 days from passage.

10 WHEREAS, according to the Pew Research Center, 39,773 people died
11 from gun-related injuries in 2017, and

12 WHEREAS three-quarters of all murders and about one-half of all suicides
13 involved a firearm; additionally, every year, 600 American women are shot to death
14 by intimate partners, and

15 WHEREAS, between 2014 and 2018, the number of criminal offenses
16 involving firearms increased 37 percent in Tacoma, and of the 22 homicides that
17 have occurred in Tacoma in 2019, 19 involved firearms, and

18 WHEREAS basic research and prevention programs can reduce long-term
19 costs and save lives, but often need funding to get started, and

20 WHEREAS, due to successful efforts by gun lobbyists, funding for research
21 into the causes of gun violence has been blocked at the federal level since 1996,
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23 WHEREAS the City Council acknowledges that preventing gun violence is a
24 shared value in the community, no matter one's opinion on a given gun violence
25 prevention policy, and
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1 WHEREAS, at the City Council meeting of October 22, 2019, Mayor
2 Woodards, Council Member Mello, and Council Member Ushka introduced the first
3 reading of an Ordinance amending the Tacoma Municipal Code by creating a new
4 Chapter 6A.120, Firearms and Ammunition Tax, that imposes a tax on firearms
5 and ammunition, to consist of \$25.00 per firearm; \$0.02 per round of ammunition
6 .22 caliber or less; and \$0.05 per round of other ammunition sold at retail, to raise
7 revenue for funding programs that help offset the impacts and costs of gun
8 violence in the City, and

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10 WHEREAS the proposed Firearms and Ammunition Tax Ordinance under
11 consideration was not subject to the careful review of the appropriate standing
12 committee, nor were the fiscal impacts to local businesses fully explored, and the
13 potential revenue estimates of the proposed Ordinance are questionable, and

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15 WHEREAS gun and youth violence is an issue in the City, and well-vetted
16 recommendations on how to address these important issues need to be
17 established, and

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19 WHEREAS the City Council is requesting that the City Manager review
20 existing gun and youth violence reduction groups in Tacoma; convene a workgroup
21 to include representatives from Tacoma Public Schools, Tacoma-based firearms
22 manufacturers and retailers, community partners, and City of Tacoma staff which
23 includes representatives from the Tacoma Police Department, to review
24 best-practices for Tacoma to address gun and youth violence reduction; and
25 present fiscal analyses to include, but not be limited to, the costs of expanding
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current programs and fiscal impact of any future firearms and ammunition tax on local gun vendors and manufacturers; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

That the City Manager is hereby directed to review existing gun and youth violence reduction groups in Tacoma; convene a workgroup to include representatives from Tacoma Public Schools, Tacoma-based firearms manufacturers and retailers, community partners, and City of Tacoma staff which includes representatives from the Tacoma Police Department, to review best practices for Tacoma to address gun and youth violence reduction; and review and present fiscal analyses, to include costs of expanding current programs and fiscal impact of any future firearms and ammunition tax on local gun vendors and manufacturers, with Council and the appropriate Council Committees no later than 30 days of passage.

Adopted _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Deputy City Attorney