

Resolution Supporting Oregon 2022's Statewide Measure 114 regarding gun violence (Final – After Resolution Hearing)

Resolved, that the 134th Convention of the Diocese of Oregon follows the urging in the 80th General Convention's Resolution B006 to advocate for safe gun legislation with our state government, in order to reduce gun violence and other forms of community violence; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention calls upon the Diocese of Oregon and all its institutions and congregations to fully embrace and support measures to stanch the scourge of gun violence and uphold peace; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention, through Lift Every Voice Oregon, officially endorses and urges all diocesan institutions and congregations to read and consider offering support of Ballot Measure 114, calling for the following gun safety reforms:

- Requiring a permit to purchase a firearm, to increase responsible gun ownership
- Requiring passing a background check prior to release of a firearm
- Restricting availability of high-capacity magazines for automatic weapons

And be it further

Resolved, that this Convention directs the Secretary of Convention to submit a Public Service Announcement and press release in support of this measure, for both the general public and for diocesan institutions and congregations, by the next business day following the close of the 134th Convention; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention will lend its collective voice to future efforts to prevent gun violence.

Explanation:

Since 1976, the General Convention of The Episcopal Church has adopted resolutions attempting to curb gun violence, which are listed below in this explanation.

Failing to address the scourge and epidemic of gun violence falls short of our Baptismal Covenant to respect the dignity of every human being and to strive for justice and peace.

Recent gun violence in Buffalo, Uvalde, and Tulsa underscores the need for safe gun legislation to prevent gun violence. Deep political divisions in the U.S. Congress, however, have made it difficult to pass meaningful gun violence-prevention legislation at the federal level. In the absence of coherent federal policy, state lawmakers can pass laws that can prevent gun violence.

Episcopalians in dioceses across the church, led by Bishops United Against Gun Violence, are eager to advocate with their state legislatures and governors for legislation that can help stop

the epidemic of gun violence, but currently, the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations (OGR) does not have the capacity to provide support to state-level advocacy efforts. Therefore, we encourage this Convention and our diocese to take on advocacy of this special legislation.

General Convention resolutions that call for reduction of gun violence:

- 2022-B003 Regulating Ghost Guns and 3D Printed Guns
- 2022-B006 Investing in State-Level Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy
- 2022-B007 Investment in Community Violence Intervention to Prevent Gun Violence
- 2018-B007 Develop a Shareholder Plan to Affect Gun Manufacturers and Retailers
- 2018-B005 Advocate for Study of Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis
- 2015-B008 Support Handgun Purchaser Licensing and gun purchaser licensing.
- 2015-C005 Implement Laws to Decrease Gun Violence
- 2012-D003 Declare Church Sites as Gun-Free Zones
- 2000-A006 Urge Government to Prohibit the Export of Handguns
- 2000-B007 Request the Removal of Handguns and Assault Weapons
- 2000-D004 Express Concern About Availability of Handguns and Assault Weapons
- 1997-C035 Urge Restrictions on Sale, Ownership and Use of Firearms
- 1997-D033 Urge Legislation on the Safe Manufacture of Domestic Hand Guns
- 1994-D019 Request a Commission Study of Sale and Spread of Armaments
- 1991-B042 Express the Mind of the House Bishops Supporting Handgun Controls
- 1976-C052 Urge Congress to Adopt Effective Hand Gun Control Legislation

Submitted by:

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Endorsers:

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The Rev. Gavin Shumate, St. John's Episcopal Church, Toledo

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The Rev. Tom Sramek, Jr., All Saints Episcopal Church, Hillsboro