



Legislation Text

File #: Res 31702, Version: 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION _____

A RESOLUTION supporting Washington Initiative Measure 1491 and urging Seattle voters to vote “Yes” on Initiative 1491 on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot.

WHEREAS, gun injuries and deaths in Washington State are a significant public health problem with

approximately 600 people killed by guns each year over the past decade, and in 2010 more people in

Washington State died by guns (609) than in traffic accidents (554); and

WHEREAS, a majority of mass shooters over the last 20 years have shown signs of serious crisis prior to

taking fatal action and nearly 80 percent of those attempting suicide make their intentions known before

an attempt; and

WHEREAS, survivors and family members from the 2014 University of California, Santa Barbara shooting,

the 2013 Café Racer shooting in Seattle, and the 2006 Jewish Federation of Seattle shooting - as well as

parents and family members of shooters and suicide victims - have stated that laws like Extreme Risk

Protection Orders could have prevented their tragedies; and

WHEREAS, family members, household members, and law enforcement officers are often in the best position

to see early warning signs of dangerous, violent, and threatening behavior; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle is committed to reducing gun violence through engaging on policies of

regional, state, and national scale that can address this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 1491 is modeled on successful laws around the country and based on the well-

established Washington state system of protection in order to fill gaps in the system that allow people

experiencing crisis or demonstrating violent behavior to possess and purchase firearms; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 1491 is an initiative to the people in Washington State that would create Extreme Risk Protection Orders, which will allow families and law enforcement to petition a court to temporarily suspend a person's access to firearms if there is documented evidence that an individual is threatening harm to themselves or others because of dangerous mental illness or at high risk of violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, after notice in accordance with RCW 42.17A.555 and Seattle Municipal Code Section 2.04.300, persons in favor of Initiative 1491 and those opposed to it have been given an equal opportunity to share their views in an open public meeting, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:

Section 1. The Mayor and City Council support creating Extreme Risk Protection Orders, allowing family members and law enforcement to petition a court to remove firearms from individuals who present a serious danger to themselves or to others.

Section 2. The Mayor and City Council urge Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Initiative 1491 in the November 8, 2016 general election.

Adopted by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2016, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this _____ day of _____, 2016.

President _____ of the City Council

The Mayor concurred the _____ day of _____, 2016.

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)