

CITY OF OAKLAND



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REBECCA KAPLAN, Councilmember At-Large
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Re: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AB 187 ESTABLISHING A TAX ON ALL AMMUNITION SOLD IN RETAIL STORES AND GUN SHOWS IN THE STATE AND DIRECT THE REVENUE FROM THE TAX TO A HIGH CRIME PREVENTION FUND FOR CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS IN HIGH -CRIME AREAS OF THE STATE.

Dear President Kernighan and Members of the Oakland City Council:

The rate of shootings and gun violence in Oakland has increased in recent years with the homicide rate climbing from 110 in 2011 to 131 in 2012. This gun violence has put a strain on both our residents and our resources, impacting citizens' quality of life and the City's finances as these shootings increase the burden on our public safety staff. The need for additional resources to combat gun violence is critical to Oakland's ability to reduce homicides.

On February 28th the Public Safety Committee will be hearing AB 187 submitted by Assembly Member Rob Bonta. AB 187 is legislation that would establish a tax on all ammunition sold in retail stores and gun shows in the state and direct the revenue from the tax to a crime prevention fund for crime prevention efforts in high-crime areas of the state.

This bill would make it harder for individuals to obtain ammunition.

Based on statistics released earlier this month by Federal Bureau of Investigation, Oakland is ranked the most dangerous city in California, with a rate of 15.3 violent crimes per 1,000 people.

- Approximately 4,600 incidents were captured by the Shot Spotter system in 2012,
- There have been 1,255 victims of homicide in Oakland in the last 10 years, the majority by firearms.
- In 2012, 131 homicides occurred, the majority by firearms, and more than 681 cases of vehicles and dwellings hit by gunfire were recorded by OPD.
- There were approximately 840 non-fatal shootings in Oakland in 2012 - a 12% increase from the previous year.

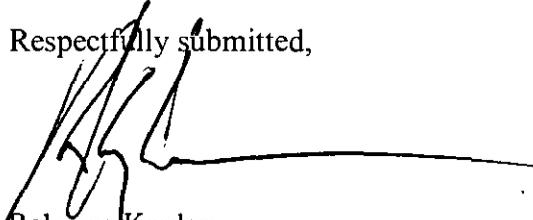
Under any circumstance the City of Oakland would be considered high crime, and would be a

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beneficiary of the high crime prevention fund. I recommend we pass a resolution supporting the legislation and direct our Legislative Advocate to follow this item, and that we continue to work with the sponsor to ensure that Oakland's interests are represented as the legislation develops.

The item, introduced by City Attorney Barbara Parker and City Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, is submitted for adoption by the City Council. The item expresses the City Council's support for specific legislation, and calls on the California Legislature to enact further regulations to help reduce and mitigate the number of gun-related deaths and injuries in Oakland.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Kaplan