

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLO

RESOLUTION (1) DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND DUE TO GUN VIOLENCE; (2) CALLING ON THE STATE TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING AN ACTION-ORIENTED 90-DAY STATEWIDE TASKFORCE TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LOCAL, COMPREHENSIVE VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOCUSED ON GUN VIOLENCE REDUCTION AND (3) CALLING ON THE STATE TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO ADDRESS INCREASING GUN VIOLENCE IN OAKLAND

WHEREAS, the most fundamental responsibility of government is to provide for the safety and security of its people. Successful policing involves more than just a crime statistic. Police must earn the trust of all residents, through professionally trained police officers governed by a clear set of rules, including the overall quality of life of a neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Oakland has experienced and increase in gun violence that parallels the national trend viewed every day in news accounts that has caused great concern to the residents and businesses of Oakland. Gun violence has been characterized as an epidemic in Oakland for many years, deserving of an emergency public health response. Gunshot wounds have been a leading cause of death for young Oaklanders, especially Black and Latino youth, since at least the early 2000s; and

WHEREAS, the mass shooting on September 8, 2022, was one of the Bay Area's worst instances of school gun violence in recent memory. Amongst a 4-school complex with 800 children, two students, a school counselor, a security guard, and two members of a grounds crew were shot: and

WHEREAS, Statistics compiled by the Oakland Police Department show that the rate of assault with a firearm is a total of 373 in Oakland. According to Oakland Chief of Police LeRonne Armstrong, as of September 28th, four hundred and fifty (450) shootings have occurred in Oakland this year. One hundred and thirty-seven (137) of the shootings are believed to be related to gang violence; and

WHEREAS, Oakland residents are living in fear and our children and families are traumatized. The guidance and resources of the state of California are desperately needed to help communities, like Oakland, to address the rapidly rising incidence of gun crime and violence; now, and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8630 empowers the governing body of a city to proclaim a local emergency due to the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of the city caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is the cause of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of the City of Oakland; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That City Council hereby declares the existence of a local emergency resulting from gun violence in the City of Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council calls on the State of California to assist in establishing an action-oriented 90-day statewide taskforce to assist in the development and implementation of local, comprehensive violence reduction strategies focused on gun violence reduction; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council calls on the State Legislature to provide resources to the city to address gun violence.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California

