

**RESOLUTION ON GUN FREE ZONES**

- WHEREAS,** Incidents of gun violence are increasing at an alarming rate in Downtown Detroit, taking lives and sending shockwaves throughout the community; and
- WHEREAS,** Downtown Detroit and its surrounding areas represent Detroit's face to the world, welcoming people from all over the city, state, country, and beyond; and
- WHEREAS,** Gun violence in Downtown Detroit poses a threat to the health, welfare, and safety of residents and visitors to the City of Detroit; and
- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Council commends the Michigan Legislature for recently passing a series of laws intended to eliminate gun violence, however, those laws did not address the statutory prohibition which prevents local governments from regulating guns to reduce violence within their communities; and
- WHEREAS,** The Firearms and Ammunition Act, Act 319 of 1990 prevents local governments from enacting ordinances that impose taxes or regulate "in any other manner the ownership, registration, purchase, sale, transfer, transportation, or possession of pistols, other firearms, or pneumatic guns, ammunition for pistols or other firearms, or components of pistols or other firearms, except as otherwise provided by federal law or a law of this state."; and
- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Council has identified the areas commonly known as the Detroit Riverfront, Greektown, Hart Plaza, Spirit Plaza, and Campus Martius as areas that should be designated as Gun Free Zones in the interest of public safety. However, the Council is unable to designate Gun Free Zones per the broad prohibitions under the Firearms and Ammunition Act; and
- WHEREAS,** Due to the persistent threat of gun violence in these areas, the Detroit Police Department has to expend its personnel and resources to maintain a presence in these areas while it has been experiencing personnel shortages; and
- WHEREAS,** Detroit is a Home Rule city, and it should be able to enact reasonable regulations in the interest of public safety. The broad prohibition from the state preventing local governments from regulating firearms stops cities from pursuing innovative solutions to gun violence that are best suited to their particular local circumstances; and
- WHEREAS,** The causes of gun violence are multi-faceted, and one-size-fits-all approaches at the state level may be insufficient to address the issue in every community; and
- WHEREAS,** The City Council of the City of Detroit has the obligation to protect the lives of Detroiters and support safe communities for businesses to thrive; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Council strongly urges the Michigan Legislature to repeal Firearms and Ammunition Act, Public Act 319 of 1990; **AND BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk is directed to send this resolution to the Detroit delegations of both the Michigan State House and Senate, in addition to Governor Gretchen Whitmer.