

**BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK**  
**NO. 6-22-151**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR MURPHY'S IMPROVED GUN SAFETY  
BILL FOR STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION: Council As A Whole

**WHEREAS** The Mayor and Borough Council of Highland Park have a long and abiding commitment to supporting efforts to strengthen gun control and reduce gun violence in the State of New Jersey and in the United States, reflected in resolutions passed in support of Gun Violence Awareness Day in May 2016 and May 2020 and in activities undertaken with the Brady United Against Gun Violence campaign to highlight this day in other years; and

**WHEREAS** Gun violence remains a growing concern in the United States, affecting greater numbers of innocent victims. In a report issued in February 2022, the Pew Research Center stated: "More Americans died of gun-related injuries in 2020 than in any other year on record, according to recently published statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). That included a record number of gun murders, as well as a near record number of gun suicides." A CNN report on June 7, 2022 stated in its headline: "US mass shootings are on pace to match last year – the worst ever, Gun Violence Archive data show; and

**WHEREAS** our nation, and our community, have been shaken in the last six weeks by news of three episodes of gun violence affecting multiple victims - in Buffalo, NY, at a Tops Friendly Market grocery store, where 10 lives were cruelly taken in May; in Uvalde, Texas, at an elementary school, where a mass shooting in May resulted in 21 deaths; and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at a medical center, where 4 people were killed on June 1st; and

**WHEREAS** the State of New Jersey is considered a national leader in gun safety measures, as the website Everytown for Gun Safety states: "New Jersey has some of the strongest gun laws in the country. From comprehensive background checks to disarming domestic abusers to a strong Extreme Risk law, New Jersey's laws are a model for other states." Yet Governor Murphy asserted in a press conference in April of this year that additional legislative measures he has proposed, which have stalled in the state legislature, are "basic measures, that will keep guns out of the wrong hands, help law enforcement apprehend the perpetrators of gun violence, and hold the gun industry accountable for its deceptive and dangerous practices."; and

**WHEREAS** the measures proposed by Governor Murphy that the legislature has not acted on include bills to require firearm safety training (A-993), mandate safe storage of firearms (A-2215), ban .50 caliber firearms (S-1416), close a loophole allowing the import of out of state firearms (A-1179/S-1204), raise the minimum age to purchase long guns to 21 (A-509/S-504), establish electronic ammunition sales record keeping (A-1302), and promote microstamping technology in new handguns (S-1462/A-2216).

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Borough Council expresses its strong support for this package of seven gun safety bills proposed by Governor Murphy and urges the New Jersey State Assembly and New Jersey State Senate to pass these measures this year, so as to more comprehensively protect the citizens of the State of New Jersey.

ADOPTED: June 14, 2022

ATTEST:

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Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk

I, Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

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Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
Foster				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				