

COUNCIL PENDING RESOLUTION NO.:2024-03  
RESOLUTION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_  
AS AMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
CERTIFICATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
CERTIFIED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
FAVORABLY \_\_\_\_\_  
UNFAVORABLY \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY,  
INDIANA, ON COMMUNITY SAFETY, FIREARM EDUCATION AND THE SAFE  
STORAGE OF FIREARMS**

**WHEREAS**, The Common Council (“Common Council”) of the City of Gary, Indiana (“City”) recognizes the ongoing effect of gun violence in the United States, the state of Indiana, the County of Lake and the City of Gary;

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council is aware and troubled by local incidents of young children accessing unsecured, loaded firearms;

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council recognizes the rights guaranteed under the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and to Hoosiers under Article 1, Sect. 20 of Indiana’s Constitution;

**WHEREAS**, in America, firearms are the leading cause of death for young persons ages 1 to 19, and injure thousands more annually based on the most recent data available;

**WHEREAS**, in the state of Indiana; suicide is the second leading cause of death for Hoosiers ages 10 to 34 based on the most recent data available;

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 4.6 million children live in homes with unsecured, loaded firearms, and most unintentional firearm-related shootings among children occur in or around the home;

**WHEREAS**, more than 80% of child firearm suicides involved a gun obtained from the child’s own home or that of a friend or relative;

**WHEREAS**, approximately 76% of the firearms used in school shootings, perpetrated by shooters under the age of 18, are acquired from the shooter’s home or the home of friends or relatives;

**WHEREAS**, research indicates that strong child access prevention initiatives and education decrease unintentional shootings, suicides and school shootings;

**WHEREAS**, direction from the Indiana State Police, the Indiana Department of Education, the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the National Rifle Association (NRA), and

Everytown for Guns Safety strongly encourage storing firearms locked, unloaded and separate from ammunition to reduce the risk of unsupervised access to firearms by children and teens and to prevent unintentional shootings and suicide in children and teens;

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council recognizes and commends Lake County Prosecutor Bernard Carter as he has initiated a gun safety lock initiative that includes free gun safety locks, along with gun safety education for residents of Gary and all of Lake County, as well as the MAAC Foundation for their proactive approach to gun safety and education, and the Common Council encourages all residents and firearm owners to utilize these resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Common Council also recognizes the importance of encouraging, promoting and committing itself to common-sense preventive measures that keep the City and our children safe;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARY, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:**

We, the **Gary Common Council**, are committed to community safety, firearm education and the safe storage of firearms.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Common Council of the City of Gary, Indiana, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT, GARY COMMON COUNCIL

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

**PRESENTED** by me, to the Mayor for his approval and signature this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

**APPROVED** and **SIGNED** by me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

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MAYOR, CITY OF GARY, INDIANA

Sponsored by: Mark Spencer

1<sup>st</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
2<sup>nd</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
3<sup>rd</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
4<sup>th</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
5<sup>th</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
6<sup>th</sup> District \_\_\_\_\_  
At Large \_\_\_\_\_  
At Large \_\_\_\_\_  
At Large \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by: Rinzer Williams, III, Legal Advisor for Gary Common Council

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT _____	Reported-Out/Date _____
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading/Date _____	Committee Hearing/Date _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading/Date _____	Public Hearing/Date _____
3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading/Date _____	Final Reading/Date _____
Passed/Date _____	Defeated/Date _____
Tabled/Date _____	Deferred/Date _____
Publication Date _____	Override/Date _____
Veto Date _____	Adopted/Date _____
	Community Hearing Date _____
	Pocket Veto Date _____