

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 440

Approved October 25, 2017

WHEREAS, In 1994, the U.S. Government passed “The Federal Assault Weapons Ban,” prohibiting the manufacture for civilian use of certain semi-automatic firearms it defined as “assault weapons”; and

WHEREAS, The ban established the criteria defining an assault weapon, where having two or more features, such as telescoping stock, pistol grips, or barrel shrouds, on a semi-automatic weapon would be prohibited; and

WHEREAS, In 2004, the ban expired in accordance to its sunset provision, as it did not have enough support from Congress to be renewed; and

WHEREAS, The Assault Weapons Ban expired despite having support from a majority of Americans, according to Gallup; and

WHEREAS, In March of 2013, Senator Diane Feinstein proposed a renewed Assault Weapons Ban but, once again, despite having the support of a majority of Americans, the bill did not have enough votes for passage; and

WHEREAS, Assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines are allowed to be sold by many states; and

WHEREAS, On October 1, 2017, a gunman armed with assault rifles opened fire on a concert crowd of 22,000 in Las Vegas, killing 58 people and wounding an estimated 500 others; and

WHEREAS, Since the Assault Weapons Ban expired, such incidents of mass shooting with the use of assault weapons have occurred repeatedly around the nation , including the communities of Aurora, Colorado, San Bernardino, California, Newtown, Connecticut, and Orlando, Florida; and

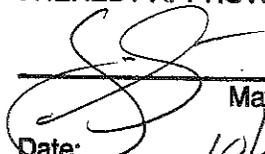
WHEREAS, These incidents illustrate the dangers of assault weapons to American public life; and

WHEREAS, Assault weapons are built for military purposes and not for civilian or hunting uses; and

WHEREAS, Assault weapons are designed to be lethal and dangerous, with the capacity to rapidly shoot multiple targets, and frequently come with magazines that allow a shooter to fire dozens of rounds without reloading; and

WHEREAS, As public servants and the elected representatives of the people of Providence, the City Council has a moral obligation to keep assault weapons off the street and from the hands of criminals in order to assure the safety of the people of Providence.

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor
Date: 10/25/17

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council strongly urges the United States Congress to reauthorize a ban on assault weapons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the elected U.S. Congress representatives of the City of Providence.

IN CITY COUNCIL

OCT 19 2017

READ AND PASSED



ACTING PRES.



CLERK