



23           **WHEREAS**, the United States Congress is currently on a five-week August  
24 recess and will not be considering legislation during that time; and

25           **WHEREAS**, in just the first weekend of August, at least 29 people were  
26 killed in mass acts of gun violence in 24 hours, and on average, 100 Americans  
27 will be shot and killed every day the Senate does not act; and

28           **WHEREAS**, on August 3, 2019, one of those mass acts of gun violence  
29 occurred in El Paso, Texas where 20 individuals are reported to have been killed  
30 by a shooter who, according to initial reports, uploaded an online manifesto  
31 describing a so-called “Hispanic invasion of Texas” and referencing inspiration  
32 from the attack on mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand that left 51 dead; and

33           **WHEREAS**, federal authorities have reported that they are investigating the  
34 El Paso mass shooting as a potential hate crime and as a potential act of domestic  
35 terrorism; and

36           **WHEREAS**, the wounded in El Paso ranged in age from two years old to 82  
37 years old and the initial reporting indicates that an assault-style rifle similar to an  
38 AK-47 was secured at the scene; and

39           **WHEREAS**, after the May 18, 2018 shooting at Santa Fe High School, in  
40 Santa Fe, Texas, where 10 people were killed and 13 injured, Texas Governor  
41 Greg Abbott met with superintendents, administrators, law enforcement officials,  
42 as well as survivors of gun violence, to discuss policies that could increase the  
43 safety of schools and communities while preserving Second Amendment rights;  
44 and

45           **WHEREAS**, on May 30, 2018 Texas Governor Greg Abbott released a  
46 School and Firearm Safety Action Plan, which included a recommendation

47 encouraging the Texas Senate and House leaders to consider the merits of adopting  
48 a red flag law or “extreme risk protective orders” allowing law enforcement, a  
49 family member, a school employee, or a district attorney to file a petition seeking  
50 the removal of firearms from a potentially dangerous person only after legal due  
51 process is provided; and

52 **WHEREAS**, Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s School and Firearm Safety  
53 Action Plan described the so called “red flag laws” as a proposal which could have  
54 been used to prevent the shootings at Sutherland Springs and at Marjory Stoneman  
55 Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; and

56 **WHEREAS**, the 86th Legislative Session began January 8, 2019 and  
57 provided opportunities for the Texas House and Senate to consider important gun  
58 safety legislation; and

59 **WHEREAS**, on average over 3,350 gun-related deaths occur in Texas each  
60 year; and

61 **WHEREAS**, local organizations, including Texas Gun Sense and local  
62 chapters of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, have advocated at  
63 the Texas Legislature for sensible gun safety legislation; and

64 **WHEREAS**, the Texas Legislature adjourned without taking sufficient  
65 action to reduce the risk of gun violence in our schools and communities; and

66 **WHEREAS**, Texas Governor Greg Abbott has the authority to call a special  
67 session of the Texas Legislature to immediately address meaningful action to  
68 prevent tragedies, such as the mass shooting in El Paso from happening in other  
69 Texas communities; and

70           **WHEREAS**, City Council has taken extensive action to address the  
71 epidemic of gun violence including Resolution No. 20130228-035 signifying City  
72 Council’s intent to endorse efforts to develop a comprehensive approach to  
73 reducing gun crime as well as Resolution Nos. 20161215-064, 20171207-054, and  
74 20180510-047;

75           **NOW, THEREFORE,**

76           **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

77           City Council implores the state and federal governments to immediately take  
78 emergency action to end gun violence and address the associated public health and  
79 public safety crisis; and

80           **BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED:**

81           City Council calls on Texas Governor Greg Abbott to immediately call a  
82 special session of the Texas Legislature to advance proposals included in Governor  
83 Abbott’s own School and Firearm Safety Action Plan; and

84           **BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED:**

85           City Council calls on the United States Senate to immediately return from  
86 recess and begin debate and deliberation on H.R. 8 and other meaningful gun  
87 safety legislation that has been approved by the United States House of  
88 Representatives and remains languishing in the Senate; and

89           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

90           City Council directs the City Manager to send a copy of this Resolution to  
91 the Texas delegation of the United States Congress and to the White House; and

92           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

93 City Council directs the City Manager to send a copy of Governor Abbott’s  
94 School and Firearm Safety Action Plan along with a copy of this Resolution to the  
95 Travis, Williamson and Hays County delegation of the Texas House and Senate,  
96 the Texas Governor, the Texas Lieutenant Governor, and to the Speaker of the  
97 Texas House of Representatives; and

98 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

99 City Council directs the City Manager to send a copy of this Resolution to  
100 the Texas Municipal League and to all municipalities in the State of Texas with  
101 populations over 500,000 residents to encourage them to consider taking similar  
102 action.

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**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2019      **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk