

1 **RESOLUTION NO.**

2 **WHEREAS**, HB 1111 passed in the 85th Legislative Session allowing
3 municipalities to create child safety zones to prevent people on the Sex Offenders
4 Registry to be near a school; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Texas Local Government Code Section 341.906 authorizes
6 cities to adopt ordinances restricting registered sex offenders from going in, on, or
7 within a specified distance of premises where children commonly gather; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the City currently does not have an ordinance on child safety
9 zones; and

10 **WHEREAS**, state law provides that if a municipality does not establish a
11 child safety zone, the only restriction is that a registered sex offender cannot live
12 on a school campus; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the safety of Austin's school aged children is of paramount
14 importance; and

15 **WHEREAS**, Austin is home to many independent school districts (ISD)
16 including Austin ISD, Leander ISD, Round Rock ISD, Eanes ISD, Del Valle ISD,
17 Pflugerville ISD, and Manor ISD as well as over 100 private schools, and many
18 other educational institutions; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Austin prides itself in the quality of its parks; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Austinites should expect themselves and their children to feel
21 safe at city parks; and

22 **WHEREAS**, child safety zones are used to protect children at places where
23 they are most frequently at such as schools and parks; and

24 **WHEREAS**, other municipalities in Central Texas such as Pflugerville,
25 Bastrop, New Braunfels, Kyle, and Lockhart have already adopted and
26 implemented child safety zones; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

28 The City Manager is directed to create an ordinance that would establish
29 child safety zones, as established under Texas Local Government Code Section
30 341.906.

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

32 The City Manager is directed to work with any relevant City departments
33 including the Austin Police Department and coordinate with the relevant
34 independent school districts, private schools, and community stakeholders in
35 crafting the ordinance such as determining where to set the child safety zones.

36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

37 The City Manager is directed to consider different rules for permanent
38 address and physical locations of registered sex offenders and to consider
39 exemptions for those with a permanent address prior to the passage of the
40 ordinance.

41 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

42 The City Manager is directed to, upon passage of the final ordinance,
43 publish a map on the City website of where the child safety zones are located in the
44 city.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to report back to Council with an ordinance before March 2025.

ADOPTED: _____, 2024 **ATTEST:** _____

Myrna Rios
City Clerk

DRAFT