

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

Resolution No. 92

Opposing Infringements on the Inalienable Right to Keep and Bear Arms, and
Affirming Support for the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution

By Legislator: Jeremiah J. Maxon

Whereas, Every person possesses inalienable rights, among these, life, liberty, property, the pursuit of happiness, and the right to keep and bear arms in defense of these inalienable rights, and

Whereas, The Declaration of Independence asserts, "it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish" "any form of government" that becomes destructive toward the people's natural rights - including the right to keep and bear arms against all enemies, foreign or domestic, and

Whereas, Proposed legislation by the State of New York will infringe on the rights of the people of the state especially the right to keep and bear arms, and

Whereas, The 2013 New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement Act (NY SAFE Act), passed with a spurious message of necessity, with no public debate, and

Whereas, The NY SAFE Act criminalized standard-capacity magazines and added arbitrary and capricious regulations with the intent of discouraging compliance by implementing many onerous requirements, and

Whereas, The State enacted legislation passed in 2019:

- To legalize the confiscation of property without due process;
- To grant private information about citizen's gun ownership to police agencies without a warrant or probable cause of the commission of a crime, and

Whereas, Certain members of the Senate and the Assembly have announced their intent to further infringe on the right to keep and bear arms with several proposed bills including:

- Assembly Bill A773 - which criminalizes the possession of a digitally-made firearm or magazine;
- Assembly Bill A1724 - which restricts the sale of ammunition for so-called "assault weapons";
- Senate Bill S1038 - which restricts the sale of ammunition;
- Senate Bill S1413 - which requires social media and search engine reviews prior to gun purchases;
- Senate Bill S4868 - which requires owners of firearms to obtain liability insurance;
- Senate Bill S6716 - which prohibits the possession of unfinished receivers;
- Senate Bill S7762 - which prohibits the possession of unfinished receivers;

Whereas, In the words of Thomas Jefferson and Cesare Beccaria, "The laws that forbid the carrying of arms ... disarm only those who are neither inclined or determined to commit crimes ... Such laws make things worse for the assaulted and better for the assailants ..."

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, That this Board of Legislators encourages all people of Jefferson County to exercise their inalienable right to keep and bear arms, to obtain arms and ammunition, and to train to a level of proficiency, so that they may, in the words of Alexander Hamilton in Federalist #28, "stand ready to defend their own rights and those of their fellow citizens" and be it further

Resolved , That this Board of Legislators strongly supports the right to keep and bear arms and the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution, and be it further

Resolved, That this Board of Legislators stands in opposition to any proposed legislation that would intentionally violate the inalienable rights of the people of Jefferson County and seeks the repeal of any state law, act, or regulation:

- Registering or tracking firearms, accessories, ammunition, or their owners;
- Forbidding or restricting the possession, ownership, transfer, or the constitutionally-guaranteed use of any type of firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition by citizens of the legal age of eighteen and over, other than pursuant to federal law;
- Ordering the confiscation of firearms, firearm accessories, or ammunition from citizens; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be provided to Jefferson County's State and Federal Representatives, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly, the Temporary President of the New York State Senate, and the Governor of the State of New York.

Seconded by Legislator: Patrick R. Jareo

State of New York)
County of Jefferson) ss.:

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Jefferson, New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of Resolution No. 92 of the Board of Legislators of said County of Jefferson with the original thereof on file in my office and duly adopted by said Board at a meeting of said Board on the 3rd day of March, 2020 and that the same is a true and correct copy of such Resolution and the whole thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County this _____ day of _____, 20 ____.

Clerk of the Board of Legislators