

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Gun Safety and Violence Prevention Task Force.

WHEREAS, ensuring the safety and protection of its citizens is among the most important roles of government; and

WHEREAS, ownership of firearms is both a cherished right and a heavy responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has a large population of gun owners; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has significant rural and urban populations, and both are affected by gun violence; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant national discussion underway on issues of gun safety and gun violence; and

WHEREAS, public policy is best shaped by bringing together diverse viewpoints and finding common ground;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is requested to appoint a Gun Safety and Violence Prevention Task Force to study public safety, public protection, and gun safety during the 2016 legislative interim and to deliver a report to the Legislative Research Commission no later than December 1, 2016.

➔Section 2. The task force shall comprehensively investigate the causes and costs of gun violence in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The task force shall investigate relevant contributing factors, including but not limited to:

- (1) The availability of "junk guns" or "Saturday night specials";
- (2) The current state of regulation of gun ownership by the mentally ill;
- (3) The utility, sporting use, and safety issues posed by various types of weapons in use in Kentucky, including handguns, shotguns, and various types of rifles;

(4) The potential costs and benefits of a waiting period for all gun purchases in Kentucky;

(5) The potential costs and benefits of requiring background checks for all gun purchases in Kentucky;

(6) The potential costs and benefits of allowing cities of the first and home rule class to regulate firearms in order to address local needs;

(7) Evaluation of the impact of a culture of violence on the citizens of the Commonwealth, using metrics deemed appropriate by the task force; and

(8) Analysis of existing data on the use of firearms in violent crime in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, including the type of gun involved; whether it was fired; whether injuries or fatalities resulted; whether the gun was owned by the perpetrator, by an intended victim, or by another party; and the differences in the use of firearms in violent crimes in urban and rural areas.

➔Section 3. The task force shall also review studies and legislative action by other states and the federal government on the causes and costs of gun violence.

➔Section 4. The task force shall be composed of the following members, with final membership subject to the consideration and approval of the Legislative Research Commission:

(1) Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House, one of whom shall be designated by the Speaker of the House to serve as co-chair;

(2) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall be designated by the President of the Senate to serve as co-chair;

(3) One representative chosen by the state National Rifle Association;

(4) The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary or designee;

(5) The Executive Director of the Office of Employee Relations for the Personnel Cabinet or designee;

- (6) The Occupational Safety and Health federal-state coordinator or designee;
- (7) Two members representing the public at large, one chosen by the Speaker of the House and one chosen by the President of the Senate;
- (8) One representative chosen by the Chamber of Commerce;
- (9) One representative chosen by the League of Kentucky Sportsmen;
- (10) One representative chosen by the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources;
- (11) One representative chosen by the Kentucky State Rifle and Pistol Association;
- (12) One representative chosen by the Executive Cabinet;
- (13) Two members representing victims' rights advocates, one chosen by the Speaker of the House and one chosen by the President of the Senate;
- (14) One representative chosen by the Sheriffs' Association;
- (15) One representative chosen by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police;
- (16) One representative chosen by the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services;
- (17) One physician representative chosen by the Kentucky Hospital Association;
- (18) The Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, or designee;
- (19) One representative chosen by Mental Health America of Kentucky;
- (20) Two representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, including one associated with processing federal firearms background checks, chosen by the Special Agent in Charge of the Louisville Division; and
- (21) One representative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, chosen by the Special Agent in Charge of the Louisville Field Division.

➔Section 5. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.