



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

January 18, 2013

Resolution 13-02

Proposed No. 13-02.2

Sponsors

1 A RESOLUTION calling on lawmakers to take meaningful
2 action to address gun violence and committing to
3 supporting efforts to reduce gun violence and supporting a
4 strong mental health system which includes prevention and
5 early intervention services.

6 WHEREAS, gun violence is one of the leading causes of premature death in the
7 United States, and

8 WHEREAS, the number of Americans who die each year from gun violence
9 (which is 31,000 in 2010) exceeds the number of babies who die each year during their
10 first year of life (which is 25,000), people who die from AIDS (which is 9,000), or people
11 who die from illicit drugs (which is 17,000), and

12 WHEREAS, lawmakers pass protective measures for other threats to the public's
13 health, such as seat belt and impaired driving laws, childhood vaccinations and
14 regulations around the safety of our drinking water, food and other products, and

15 WHEREAS, from 2007 to 2011, 2,874 Washington state residents died as a result
16 of gun violence, and

17 WHEREAS, from 2007 to 2011, 625 King County residents died as a result of
18 gun violence, and an additional 512 residents were hospitalized due to nonfatal firearm
19 injuries, and

20 WHEREAS, of the King County gun deaths from 2007 to 2011, 164 were
21 homicide, 460 were self-inflicted and one was unintentional, and

22 WHEREAS, suicide accounts for the greatest number of gun-related deaths in the
23 United States and in King County, and

24 WHEREAS, from 2007 to 2011, the average cost of firearm fatalities and nonfatal
25 hospitalizations in King County was \$177 million per year in medical costs and lost
26 productivity, and

27 WHEREAS, mass shooting events in the United States continue to occur, such as
28 the 2011 massacres in Tucson, Arizona, the 2012 massacres in Aurora, Colorado, and
29 Newton, Connecticut, and here in Seattle, Washington, last May, and

30 WHEREAS, other countries have a much lower gun-related mortality rate; the
31 United States homicide rate is 30 times higher than that of Australia, France or the United
32 Kingdom, and

33 WHEREAS, there are known strategies that can potentially reduce gun violence
34 that our lawmakers can explore, and

35 WHEREAS, mental health services must also be a priority to reduce both suicide
36 and homicide rates;

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King
38 County:

39 A. The Board of Health calls on federal and state lawmakers to take meaningful
40 action to address gun violence;

41 B. The Board of Health supports actions by state and federal executives to
42 meaningfully address gun violence, inclusive of President Obama's calls for action on
43 January 16, 2013; and

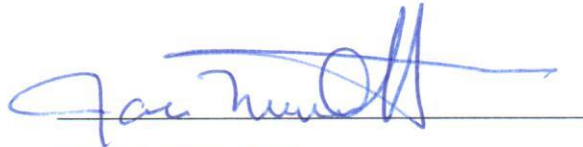
44 C. The Board of Health commits to supporting efforts to reduce violence,
45 including gun violence, and supports a strong mental health system that includes
46 prevention and early intervention services.

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Resolution 13-02 was introduced on and passed as amended by the Board of Health on 1/17/2013, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Conlin, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Clark, Dr. Nicola, Dr. Danielson, Mr. McDermott and Ms. Wales
No: 3 - Ms. Lambert and Mr. Baker
Excused: 3 - Ms. Frisinger, Mr. Licata and Mr. Harrell

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None