

## RESOLUTION

Subject: Educate Families about Gun Safety  
Submitted by: Lexington Medical Society  
Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, the American Medical Association<sup>1</sup> and the Annals of Internal Medicine have declared gun violence a “public health crisis” and the latter endorsed a required educational program prior to purchasing a firearm<sup>2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, according Everytown for Gun Safety since 2013 there were at least 465 incidents of gunfire on school grounds causing 181 deaths and 358 injuries<sup>3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Post found that 80% of perpetrators of gun violence in schools had obtained their weapon from home, or those of relatives or friends; and

WHEREAS, a study conducted by Every Town for Gun Safety confirmed that nearly 2 million American children live in homes that do not have adequate safety measures in place for storing firearms; and

WHEREAS, The Journal of Trauma Injury, Infection and Critical Care found a direct correlation between firearm availability and accidental gun deaths among youth<sup>4</sup>; and

WHEREAS, according to the US General Accounting Office 31% of accidental deaths caused by firearms could be prevented with the addition of a lock and an indicator showing whether the weapon is loaded<sup>5</sup>; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC yearly 500 children die from gun suicides annually; and

WHEREAS, states with safe storage laws (laws that require guns to be stored, locked and unloaded when any person prohibited from possessing a gun-i.e. minors-is present in the gun owners home) have had a decrease in accidental child firearm deaths by 23% and 14% decrease in youth suicide deaths; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association in 2019, “encourages and endorses the development and presentation of safety education programs that will engender more responsible use and storage of firearms”; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association will formally support firearm education for guardians of minors in Kentucky in accordance with our parent organization, the American Medical Association.

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## References

- <sup>1</sup> <https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-calls-gun-violence-public-health-crisis>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/2709820/reducing-firearm-injuries-deaths-united-states-position-paper-from-american>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://everytownresearch.org> or <https://everytownresearch.org/gunfire-in-school/#12510>
- <sup>4</sup> [https://journals.lww.com/jtrauma/Abstract/2002/02000/Firearm Availability and Unintentional Firearm.11.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/jtrauma/Abstract/2002/02000/Firearm_Availability_and_Unintentional_Firearm.11.aspx)
- <sup>5</sup> <https://www.gao.gov/products/PEMD-91-9>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://economics.adelaide.edu.au/research/papers/doc/wp2001-06.pdf3>