

Referred to the KMA Gun Violence and Firearm Safety Work Group for Further Consideration

2023-35

RESOLUTION

Subject: Repeal Kentucky State Laws that Prohibit Prevention of Mass Shootings and Gun Violence, and Thus Endanger Our Schoolchildren, Citizens and Police

Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, the escalating epidemic of mass shootings, school invasions and gun violence is now a public health crisis in Kentucky and across America, leading the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Physicians, American College of Surgeons, American Psychiatric Association, American Public Health Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police to call for bans of assault weapons and enhanced killing features, loophole-free background checks, and “red flag” (Extreme Risk Protective Order) laws¹⁻⁴; and

WHEREAS, many states are enacting commonsense gun violence control laws to protect their citizens. However, the Kentucky state legislature has not only failed to do so, but it has passed a law (KRS 85.870) prohibiting local community governments from enacting gun violence control laws to protect their local citizens. Furthermore, our legislature has passed another law (2023 HB 153—the so-called “2nd Amendment Sanctuary law”) that prohibits enforcements of federal gun violence control measures in our state. These state laws substantially weaken protection of our schoolchildren, citizens and police officers from mass shootings and gun violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA join America’s principal medical, public health, and police officer organizations¹⁻⁴ to protect the health and safety of our schoolchildren, citizens and police officers by calling for and supporting repeal of KRS 65.870, which prohibits local community governments from enacting gun violence control laws to protect their local citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA calls for and supports repeal of 2023 HB 153 (the so-called “2nd Amendment Sanctuary law”) that prohibits enforcements of federal gun violence control measures in our state.

References:

- 1 McLean RM, Harris P, Cullen J, et al. Firearm-related injury and death in the United States: a call to action from the nation's leading physician and public health professional organizations. *Ann Intern Med.* 2019;171(8):573-577. doi:10.7326/M19-2441
- 2 <https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-recommends-new-common-sense-policies-prevent-gun-violence>

- 3 <https://www.apha.org/Policies-and-Advocacy/Public-Health-Policy-Statements/Policy-Database/2014/07/24/17/55/Support-Renewal-with-Strengthening-of-the-Federal-Assault-Weapons-Ban>
- 4 https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/IACP%20Firearms%20Position%20Paper_2018.pdf