

Resolution No. 393-18

Council Member Griffin

AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Calling upon the Ohio legislature to enact a “red flag” law that would allow the seizure of guns before a person can commit an act of violence against self or others.

WHEREAS, currently there is an innovative law enacted in at least five states known as the “red flag” law that allows law enforcement to seize guns from individuals determined to be a threat to themselves or others; and

WHEREAS, “red flag” laws in California, Washington, Oregon, Indiana and Connecticut can be used by family members or law enforcement to ask a judge for a “gun violence restraining order” or an “extreme risk protection order” based on someone’s violent or troubling behavior; and

WHEREAS, in Connecticut between 1999-2013, researchers found that police served 762 risk warrants, about 50 instances per year, and estimated that a gun suicide was prevented for every 10-20 seizures; police found guns in 99% of the cases in which they served warrants and seized an average of 7 firearms from each person; and

WHEREAS, removal of the gun via a “red flag” law is limited and targeted toward specific individuals and would create opportunities for more social services to address mental health and other safety issues; and

WHEREAS, 18 other states, including Florida and the District of Columbia have proposed “red flag” laws; and

WHEREAS, this resolution constitutes an emergency measure for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health or safety, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND:

Section 1. That this Council hereby calls upon the Ohio legislature to enact a “red flag” law that would allow the seizure of guns before a person can commit an act of violence against self or others.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to Governor John Kasich and to all members of the Ohio legislature.

Section 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and, provided it receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

BAG:rns
4/2/18

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READ FIRST TIME on APRIL 2, 2018
and referred to COMMITTEE on Finance

REPORTS

CITY CLERK

READ SECOND TIME

CITY CLERK

READ THIRD TIME

PRESIDENT

CITY CLERK

APPROVED

MAYOR

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REPORT
after second Reading

**PASSAGE RECOMMENDED BY
COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE**

FILED WITH COMMITTEE