

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 20

## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BLACK (Sponsor), SCHIEFFER, HODGES, HARRIS, SMITH (85), FOWLER, HIGDON, KELLEY (127) AND ROORDA (Co-sponsors).

1247L.021

2           **WHEREAS**, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed and is  
3 guaranteed as an individual right under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution  
4 and under Article I, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Missouri; and

5           **WHEREAS**, the right of the people to keep and bear arms for defense of life, liberty, and  
6 property is regarded as an inalienable right by the citizens of the State of Missouri; and

7  
8           **WHEREAS**, the citizens of the State of Missouri derive economic benefit from all safe  
9 forms of firearms recreation, hunting, and shooting conducted within Missouri, using all types  
10 of firearms allowable under the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of  
11 Missouri; and

12  
13           **WHEREAS**, the Missouri General Assembly, being elected to represent the citizens of  
14 the State of Missouri and being duly sworn by their oath of office to uphold the United States  
15 Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Missouri, respects the right of the people to keep  
16 and bear arms and opposes any legislative action taken beyond lawful legislative authority which  
17 unconstitutionally infringes upon such right; and

18  
19           **WHEREAS**, the United States Supreme Court has ruled that the right to keep and bear  
20 arms under the Constitution of the United States is subject to certain reasonable restrictions; and

21  
22           **WHEREAS**, in order to effectively institute measures which will decrease the threat and  
23 incidents of gun violence in our state and nation, the Missouri General Assembly supports any  
24 actions taken within lawful legislative authority that:

25  
26           (1) Protect the rights of responsible gun owners;

27  
28           (2) Increase the ability to identify and treat persons with mental and behavioral health  
29 issues that threaten public safety;

30  
31           (3) Improve the quality of information contained in the National Instant Criminal  
32 Background Check System (NICS) to ensure that only law-abiding citizens have access to  
33 firearms; and

34

35           **WHEREAS**, the Missouri General Assembly strongly believes that these measures are  
36 an integral part of a comprehensive approach in finding solutions which will reduce gun violence  
37 in our state and nation:

38

39           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
40 Representatives of the Ninety-seventh General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
41 concurring therein, hereby support lawful legislative action which protects the rights of  
42 responsible gun owners, increases the ability to identify and treat persons with mental and  
43 behavioral issues that threaten public safety, and improves the quality of information in the NICS  
44 system to ensure that only law-abiding citizens have access to firearms; and

45

46           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
47 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for each  
48 member of the Missouri Congressional delegation.

✓