

Resolution

Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-____
RESOLUTION TO DECLARE GUN VIOLENCE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

WHEREAS, in the United States, gun violence is a major public health crisis and a leading cause of premature death. According to the CDC, each day more than 100 Americans die by firearms; and

WHEREAS, halfway through 2021, Oakland has had more shootings already than occurred in all of 2020. In the first half of 2021 there have been approximately 330 shootings causing injuries including death in Oakland; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, 120 people were murdered in Oakland, 84 with a firearm; and

WHEREAS, gun violence affects people of all ages and races in the U.S. but has disproportionate impact on young adults, males and racial/ethnic minorities. The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC says that among U.S. residents aged 15-24, homicide is the fourth leading cause of death for non-Hispanic whites, the second leading cause of death for Hispanics, and the leading cause of death for non-Hispanic Blacks; and

WHEREAS, Oakland's Black communities feel the toll of gun violence most significantly, representing well over half of all murder victims, while compromising less than 25 percent of the overall city population; and

WHEREAS, in a 2018 Washington Post article "The Enormous Economic Cost of Gun Violence" the article reported that gun violence costs the American taxpayer over \$229 billion, this includes, medical treatment, legal fees, long-term prison costs, long-term medical and disability expenses, mental health care, emergency services, police investigations and security enhancements; and

WHEREAS, preventing death, disability and injury from gun violence requires a public health approach that involves data collection and surveillance, research to understand which policies and programs are effective in decreasing gun violence, initiatives to implement those measures that are shown to work, and continued surveillance and evaluation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California, declares gun violence a public health crisis and directs county departments to identify and deploy resources to address neighborhood violence.

THE FOREGOING was PASSED and ADOPTED by a majority of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alameda, State of California, at the meeting of said Board held on this ____ day of _____ 2021 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
EXCUSED:

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

By: _____
CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
COUNTY COUNSEL

