

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO DEFEAT HB 543/SB 150, WHICH WOULD ALLOW CONCEALED CARRY OF WEAPONS AND FIREARMS WITHOUT A LICENSE; DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Florida House Bill 543, Florida Senate Bill 150 (and some related bills), propose to allow the concealed carry of weapons and firearms without permit, dismantling Florida's system of responsible gun ownership; and

WHEREAS, HB 543, if approved, would effectively remove safeguards that help ensure only responsible gun owners carry firearms in public; and

WHEREAS, omitting the permitting process to carry a concealed weapon or firearm will allow individuals to carry open or concealed firearms without passing a full or criminal history background check, completion of a handgun safety course, or demonstrated competency with a handgun; and

WHEREAS, gun violence is considered to be one of the major threats to public health and safety in communities across the country and Florida; and

WHEREAS, while the United States Constitution does afford citizens the right to individual possession of firearms, as given in the Second Amendment, handgun carry permit laws do not infringe on Second Amendment rights, as upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States in *District of Columbia v. Heller*; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Key West finds that HB 543, if approved, would endanger the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Key West, Florida, and the United States; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Key West City Commission urges the Florida Legislature to defeat House Bill 543/SB 150, which would allow persons to carry a concealed weapon or concealed firearm without obtaining and maintaining a concealed firearm license.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Ron DeSantis, Representatives Chuck Brannon and Bobby Payne (HB Sponsors, with other co-introducers), Representative James "Jim" Mooney, Jr, Senator Jay Collins (SB 153 Sponsor, with other co-introducers), and Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Filed with the Clerk on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Lissette Carey	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

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TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK