



THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL
of the
BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE
County of Essex
State of New Jersey

Monday, September 23, 2019

RESOLUTION NO. 131-19

Offered by Councilor **LISOVICZ**
Seconded by Councilor

Resolution in Support of Federal Background Checks for All Gun Sales Law

WHEREAS, federal law only requires a background check when a gun seller is a licensed gun dealer, leaving all other sales -- like unlicensed gun sales negotiated over the internet -- unregulated and unchecked; and

WHEREAS, a 2015 survey found that nearly a quarter of Americans (22 percent) who acquired a firearm within the past two years did so without a background check; and

WHEREAS, our federal background check law was written 25 years ago, well before the establishment of online gun marketplaces; and

WHEREAS, a recent investigation found that on a single website, there were nearly 1.2 million ads for firearm sales that did not require a background check; and

WHEREAS, a recent investigation found that 1 in 9 of the people looking online to buy a gun from an unlicensed seller would fail a background check; and

WHEREAS, a recent investigation of online unlicensed gun sellers found that state background check laws have a profound public safety impact, with only 6 percent of sellers contacted by investigators indicating they would require a background check, while 84 percent of sellers from states with background check laws expressly stated they would follow the background checks law; and

WHEREAS, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System is an effective tool to keep guns away from prohibited purchasers, including felons, domestic abusers and people involuntarily committed, and over 3.5 million sales have been blocked to violent criminals and other prohibited people since the system began in 1994; and

WHEREAS, despite this success, the system is undermined by loopholes that enable guns to be sold without a background check ; and

WHEREAS, repeated polls show overwhelming support for requiring background checks on all gun sales, with 94% of American voters indicating support, including 92% of Republicans and 90% of gun owners.

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives has passed H.R. 8, an important, bipartisan public safety bill that would require a background check for every gun sale, by a vote of 240-190,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge urges the Senate to pass, and the President to sign critical public safety legislation to require a background check on all gun sales