

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE

**Calling the Michigan Legislature to Action on Gun Violence
Prevention Legislation**

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 21st day of February, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson,
Sundland, Wilson, Wisinski

ABSENT: _____

The following Resolution was offered by Trustee Hendrickson and supported by Trustee Wilson.

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Police recently responded to a call of an active shooter at Okemos High School, which was later determined to be a hoax, a situation which instilled fear in the hearts of students, faculty, and parents; and

WHEREAS, school shootings and gun violence are widespread, and it is the sense of this board that more legislative action is necessary to prevent them; and

WHEREAS, an active shooter incident has recently touched our mid-Michigan community on February 13, 2023 and resulted in the tragic loss of several Michigan State University students; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature has, to date, not passed meaningful gun violence prevention legislation in decades; and

WHEREAS, Congress is stymied on the issue of gun control, allowing gun violence to remain unchecked across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Board of Trustees voted to establish the first Friday of June each year as National Gun Violence Awareness Day in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board encouraged and continues to encourage all citizens to support their local community's efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives; and

WHEREAS, there is more that our state legislature and Congress can and should do to curtail gun violence in our communities and schools through small, yet sensible, legislative changes; and

WHEREAS, universal background checks, when properly enforced block illegal gun sales and keep deadly weapons out of the hands of the people with significant histories of violence or irresponsible behavior; and

WHEREAS, red flag laws, or extreme risk protection orders, are vital tools that courts can use to order temporary removal of firearms from those that may present an imminent danger to themselves or others; and

WHEREAS, assault weapon restrictions and bans prohibit the sale of semi-automatic and automatic weapons which are used to quickly fire multiple rounds and would restrict the ability of those seeking to commit acts of gun violence from obtaining these weapons, which are used to maximize casualties; and

WHEREAS, magazine capacity restrictions are used to limit the number of bullets that guns can fire without having to reload, thereby slowing down perpetrators of gun violence from being able to quickly fire weapons many times; and

WHEREAS, safe storage laws require gun owners to store guns in secured locations, so that unauthorized individuals may not access them, which would prevent children or others in the household from accessing the weapons and discharging them, either accidentally or in an act of violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, that the Township Board condemns acts of gun violence in our community and throughout our state; and,

FURTHER RESOLVE, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, stands together with our neighbors at Michigan State University as well as alumni and future Spartans in our community and across the country in mourning those who have perished in and comforting those who were traumatized by this senseless act of gun violence; and,

FURTHER RESOLVE, the Township Board offers its appreciation and recognition for the courageous first responders from Meridian Township and across the region who put themselves in harm's way to respond quickly to the incident at Michigan State University; and,

FURTHER RESOLVE, that it is the sense of the Township Board that the State Legislature and Congress must do more to protect our residents and students by passing common sense gun control reforms to prevent the next acts of gun violence, including preventing acts of gun violence in our schools; and,

FURTHER RESOLVE, that the Township Board urges the State Legislature and Congress to enact, and the Governor and President to sign, universal background check legislation, red flag legislation, assault weapon restrictions, magazine capacity restrictions, and safe storage laws immediately; and,

FURTHER RESOLVE, that the Township Clerk transmit copies of this resolution to Meridian Township's state and federal legislative delegation, the Governor of the State of Michigan, and the President and Vice-President of the United States.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wilson, Wisinski

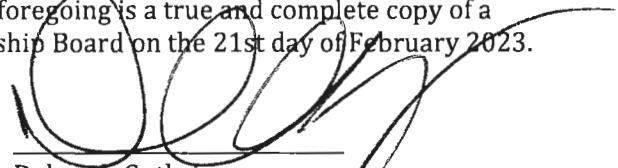
NAYS: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk for the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 21st day of February 2023.



Deborah Guthrie
Meridian Township Clerk