

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, federal and state law prohibit the manufacture, sale, transfer, and possession of machine guns due to their extreme lethality and threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, certain semi-automatic handguns can be unlawfully converted into fully automatic weapons through small devices commonly known as “switches,” which are readily available through illicit markets; and

WHEREAS, once converted, these firearms can discharge ammunition at rates of up to approximately 1,200 rounds per minute, making them exceptionally difficult to control and significantly increasing the risk of mass casualty incidents; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation of firearm conversion devices has contributed to increased gun violence in Chicago and other communities, placing substantial strain on law enforcement, emergency responders, and healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 2801 and House Bill 4471, sponsored by Senator Celina Villanueva and Representative Justin Slaughter, prohibit licensed firearm dealers from selling or transferring to civilians semi-automatic handguns that can be readily converted into machine guns using common tools or minimal modification; and

WHEREAS, the legislation establishes civil penalties to ensure compliance and accountability within the firearm marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the legislation is narrowly tailored and does not impact the lawful possession or carrying of firearms currently owned by individuals, and includes exemptions for law enforcement and military personnel; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago remains committed to reducing gun violence and advancing evidence-based public safety policies that protect residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the City Council of the City of Chicago, hereby express our support for Illinois Senate Bill 2801 and House Bill 4471; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council urges the Illinois General Assembly to pass this legislation without delay to help reduce the proliferation of illegally modified firearms and strengthen public safety statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Illinois, members of the Illinois General Assembly, and other relevant stakeholders.



LAMONT J. ROBINSON
Alderman, 4th Ward