

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 91
IN SUPPORT OF HR3435**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of this honorable Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis of H.R. 3435 introduced in the House of Representatives of the United States on June 24, 2019 by Congressman Lacy Clay of the 1st Congressional District of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3435 would encourage States to allow local governments to implement laws to reduce gun violence; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3435 would make grants available to States to reduce gun violence if they meet the eligibility requirement of allowing local governments to implement local laws for gun control; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3435 states, in part, the following:

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) When it comes to gun violence, local laws serve the important purpose of addressing the unique issues and dangers facing each different community.

(2) Most State constitutions generally allocate authority to local governments to regulate in the interests of the public health, safety, and welfare. States that have removed authority from local governments to regulate guns and ammunition have created a dangerous exception to the traditional rule of local authority.

(3) Broad State preemption statutes ignore important local variations that may necessitate distinct approaches to the problem of gun violence. State preemption statutes threaten public safety because they prevent local governments from implementing customized solutions to gun violence in their communities.

(4) By mandating a one-size-fits-all approach to firearms regulation, preemption statutes deprive the public of a critical problem-solving resource--local innovation. Local governments are often the source of cutting-edge laws to reduce gun violence, which are proven successful and later adopted at the statewide level.

(5) State preemption statutes impede local government's ability to fill regulatory gaps created by inaction at the State and Federal level. Restrictions on State and Federal resources also make an extra level of local involvement necessary to properly enforce many gun laws. For example, local law enforcement may provide much needed oversight of gun businesses, which the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives is too underfunded to provide; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3435 also states that a state should not prohibit or restrict a local government from imposing or implementing laws that are more restrictive than the laws of the relevant State, which is an important statement for local control of gun laws.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED that this Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis supports H.R. 3435 and encourages the entire Congressional delegation from Missouri and all members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives to support and adopt H.R. 3435 as well. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a copy of this Resolution to the end that it may be presented to those deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 3rd day of July, 2019 by:

Honorable John Muhammad, 21st Ward Alderman