



**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL YOUTH-LED EFFORTS CALLING FOR STATE  
AND NATIONAL ACTION TO PREVENT GUN VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS AND  
COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE**

**WHEREAS**, gun violence is a crisis in the United States, especially for children; and

**WHEREAS**, the US has the highest rate of gun violence among its peers, including nearly six times the gun homicide rate of Canada, more than seven times that of Sweden, and nearly 16 times that of Germany; and

**WHEREAS**, on average, two dozen children are shot every day in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 150,000 students attending at least 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a shooting on campus since the Columbine High School massacre in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, along with school shootings, countless other lives are impacted by gun violence that do not make headlines every day. Ninety-six Americans are shot and killed and hundreds more are wounded each day in this country; and

**WHEREAS**, every child deserves to learn in a school that is safe and adults must do more to protect our students and schools from gun violence; and

**WHEREAS**, young people in our community are taking the lead, in solidarity with Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in calling for action by state and national leaders and asking that adults listen and follow their lead; and

**WHEREAS**, these grassroots and youth-led efforts build on the momentum of Black Lives Matter, the Dream Defenders, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Giffords and other efforts to amplify the majority of voices who support sensible gun control legislation in the US; and

**WHEREAS**, these youth are taking part in protests and other actions to demand that they be kept safe in their schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Durham Board of County Commissioners supports these youth in their assertions that sensible gun control legislation efforts including universal background checks, waiting periods, and an assault weapon ban will prevent gun violence; and extreme risk protective orders which would allow law enforcement to remove guns from dangerous persons if ordered by a judge as proposed by State Representative Marcia Morey; and

**WHEREAS**, we reject arming teachers or other acts that would put more guns and fear in our schools.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Durham Board of County Commissioners supports the aforementioned youth-led actions to make their voices heard and calls on the community and State and federal elected leaders to act on sensible gun control legislative measures to prevent further gun violence in our schools and in our communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Durham Legislative Delegation and Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis and Congressman David Price, Governor Roy Cooper, and Senator Valerie Foushee.

**ADOPTED** this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

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Wendy Jacobs, Chair

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James Hill, Vice-Chair

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Heidi Carter

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Brenda Howerton

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Ellen Reckhow