

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, our nation is grieving and heartbroken due to the ongoing gun violence throughout the land, especially as it has affected our children in schools in Florida, Colorado, Connecticut, Virginia, and other states;

WHEREAS, our children have the need and the right to go to school in order to learn and grow, and they should be able to do so without fear;

WHEREAS, more than 150,000 students have experienced a shooting on their campuses since the Columbine High School massacre in 1999;

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria was deeply affected by the gun violence at Simpson Field in June 2017;

WHEREAS, gun violence is a major cause of death and injury in the United States, killing more than 30,000 people every year and injuring more than 73,000, and approximately 1.4 million people have been killed by firearms in our nation in the last 50 years, which is more than twice as many as the number of U.S. service members killed in combat in all wars in the history of our country;

WHEREAS, our police officers and other first responders have suffered trauma and grave losses, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund advocate for the adoption of common sense policies to assist in reducing gun violence;

WHEREAS, federal and state laws limit the ability of local governments to carry out their public safety duties by prohibiting common sense gun regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia: that the City of Alexandria urges the United States Congress and state legislatures, including the Virginia General Assembly, to prioritize the protection of students and our citizens and pass common sense gun reform laws, including: stronger background checks for all gun buyers; prohibiting the sale of armor-piercing ammunition; bans on assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and bump stocks; funding for public health research on

firearms-related issues; mental health support; “red flag” laws to aid earlier identification and court-ordered removal of guns determined to pose a danger to the owner or others; and allowing local governments to enact common sense local gun policies.

Adopted: February 27, 2018

MAYOR ALLISON SILBERBERG
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk