



## Office of the Mayor

Peggy R. Bell  
Mayor

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Town Council  
**From:** Peggy R. Bell, Mayor  
**Date:** March 21, 2018  
**Re:** Calling for Gun Reform

## REQUEST

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF CUTLER BAY, FLORIDA, CALLING ON THE STATE OF FLORIDA, GOVERNOR RICK SCOTT, PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP, AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA AND HELP PREVENT FUTURE MASS SHOOTINGS BY REQUIRING A BACKGROUND CHECK FOR EVERY FIREARM SALE; SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION THAT WOULD KEEP MILITARY-STYLE WEAPONS AND HIGH-CAPACITY MAGAZINES AWAY FROM OUR SCHOOLS; URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO REPEAL THE PUNITIVE PUNISHMENTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS SET FORTH IN SECTION 790.33, FLORIDA STATUTES; AUTHORIZING THE TOWN CLERK TO TRANSMIT THIS RESOLUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

## BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

An increase in the amount of hate groups, international and lone wolf domestic terrorism, underfunded community mental health programs, and easy access to military grade, high capacity magazine assault weapons have created circumstances which have led to an unprecedented number of mass shootings in American communities in recent years.

There have been several tragic mass shooting across the country in recent months and most recently, on February 14, 2018, Nikolas Cruz shot and killed 17 people, including students, teachers, and coaches, and wounded 14 others at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Yet, National and State leaders continue to fail to act to implement sensible gun law reforms that are supported by a majority of the nation.





There are steps that can be taken to hopefully help combat the continued shootings and loss of life and we must be a strong advocate for common-sense policies that keep guns out of dangerous hands while respecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

I urge the members of the Town Council to support this resolution urging that a background check be required for every firearm sale, supporting the passage of legislation that would keep military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines away from our schools and urging the Florida Legislature to repeal punitive punishments of elected officials as set forth in the Florida Statutes.

