

Resolution No. 180797

A Resolution of the City of Gainesville City Commission, Urging the State Legislature to Strike Down any Bill to Arm “Guardians” in Classrooms Across the State and to Provide Additional Resources to Local Law Enforcement Agencies

WHEREAS, the Gainesville City Commission, who collectively represents the residents of the City of Gainesville, have expressed concern for the safety and wellbeing of our students and as policymakers want all Alachua County students to be able to learn in a safe, secure and supportive environment; and,

WHEREAS, the Gainesville City Commission recognizes that gun violence and threats of gun violence in schools undermine that sense of security and safety that students should have in their schools; and,

WHEREAS, the growing epidemic of school-based shootings is the highest it has been since 1970, with more than 1,300 school shootings documented nationwide; and,

WHEREAS, 2018 registered the greatest number of incidents on record – a staggering 82 shootings in one year – it also saw the highest year for the number of victims killed at 51; and,

WHEREAS, Florida now ranks amongst the top three states in the U.S. with the most incidents, we look to our State Legislature to do their part to help make our schools safe environments to learn without fear; and

WHEREAS, On February 14, 2018, the lives of 14 students and 3 staff members were tragically lost at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas School shooting in Parkland, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Florida Senate Bill 7030 proposes arming teachers other “guardians,” which may include classroom teachers, in our schools against which we stand in strong opposition.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Commission urges the State Legislature to strike down any and all bills with provisions for arming teachers, guardians and anyone outside of trained law enforcement professionals in our schools and urges the State Legislature to provide additional training, funding and resources to law enforcement agencies in Alachua County and throughout the state.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 7th day of March, 2019.


By: _____

Lauren Poe
Mayor

ATTEST:


Omichele D. Gainey
Clerk of the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:


Daniel M. Nee
for/ Nicolle M. Shalley
City Attorney