

RESOLUTION R-5334

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND SUPPORTING INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 1639, CONCERNING FIREARMS.

1 WHEREAS, on January 3, 2017, the Mayor, with the
2 support of the City Council, reiterated the values of the City of
3 Kirkland ("City") by proclaiming Kirkland as a safe, inclusive and
4 welcoming city for all people, and requested that City staff assist
5 the City Council in developing and implementing a program to
6 communicate the City's values; and

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8 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the City Council passed
9 Resolution R-5240 formalizing the themes in the proclamation and
10 directing the City Manager to identify, through community
11 discussions, additional actions that can be taken by the City and
12 the community to help keep Kirkland a safe, welcoming and
13 inclusive city for all people; and

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15 WHEREAS, on February 21, 2017, the City Council also
16 enacted Ordinance O-4558 adding a new Chapter 3.18 to the
17 Kirkland Municipal Code entitled "Sustaining a Safe, Inclusive and
18 Welcoming City"; and

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20 WHEREAS, the tragic killing of 17 people at Marjory
21 Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February
22 14, 2018, reignited the debate in communities around the nation
23 regarding gun safety and community safety, including in Kirkland;
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, the federal and state constitutions guarantee
27 the right to keep and bear arms, and many Kirkland residents
28 legally own firearms for reasons such as hunting, recreation and
29 personal protection; and

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31 WHEREAS, input from all community members, including
32 gun owners, is necessary to promote safe and responsible gun
33 ownership in order to reduce mass shootings, homicides, suicides
34 and accidental shootings; and

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36 WHEREAS, on March 14, 2018, the City Council welcomed
37 over 70 parents from various Kirkland schools to City Hall to hear

community concerns and discuss potential actions that could be taken to help keep students safe from gun violence; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2018, the City and the Lake Washington School District ("School District") co-hosted a community discussion about school safety and community safety at which members of the public requested further action by the City and School District on the topics of gun safety and community safety; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2018, in response to a request from Kirkland residents, the City Council adopted Resolution R-5312 setting forth the need for community dialogue and action on the topic of gun safety and community safety; and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2018, the City Council hosted a Town Hall on gun safety and community safety in order to receive input from the community on actions the City might undertake to reduce gun violence; and

WHEREAS, some concerned Kirkland residents have urged the City Council to officially support statewide ballot measures that promote gun and community safety; and

WHEREAS, Initiative Measure 1639 ("I-1639"), concerning firearms, will be on the general election ballot, November 6, 2018; and

WHEREAS, I-1639 seeks to make changes to the Chapter 9.41 RCW, Firearms and Dangerous Weapons; and

WHEREAS, I-1639 would create an enhanced background check system and require firearm safety training and waiting periods before semiautomatic assault rifles may be purchased or delivered; and

WHEREAS, I-1639 would impose age limitations on who may purchase or possess certain firearms, including prohibiting purchases by persons under age 21; and

WHEREAS, I-1639 would require certain secured firearm storage or trigger locks, and criminalize noncompliant firearm storage if it results in unauthorized use; and

81 WHEREAS, I-1639 would enact other firearm-related
82 requirements, including certain warnings, recordkeeping and fees;
83 and
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85 WHEREAS, as provided for by RCW 42.17A.555, the City
86 Council provided public notice of its intent to consider taking
87 action at its September 18, 2018 regular meeting to support or
88 opposed I-1639, at which time members of the public were given
89 an opportunity to express their views in connection with I-1639;
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92 WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to show its support
93 to I-1639.
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95 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the
96 City of Kirkland as follows:
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98 Section 1. The City Council supports Initiative 1639,
99 concerning firearms.
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101 Section 2. The City Council urges Kirkland voters to vote
102 yes on Initiative 1639 and enact the measure into law.
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104 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open
105 meeting this 18th day of September, 2018.
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107 Signed in authentication thereof this 18th day of
108 September, 2018.


Amy Walen, Mayor

Attest:


Kathi Anderson, City Clerk