

13-0002-519

JAN 29 2013

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, a recent review of gun acquisition data in *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management* disclosed that criminals and incarcerated offenders identified their main source of acquiring guns is through secondary transactions with friends, family members, and unlicensed entrepreneurs such as drug dealers; and

WHEREAS, one of the most common ways criminals obtain firearms is through straw purchases at licensed gun stores. A "straw purchase" happens when the actual buyer of a gun cannot pass the federal background check, or does not want to be associated with the purchase, and instead uses a person, who can pass the required background check, purchase the gun for him or her; and

WHEREAS, whether through legitimate retail channels or unlicensed vendors, straw purchasing poses a significant threat to the public and a clear violation of the law; and

WHEREAS, the streak of people murdered and wounded across this country have sometimes involved guns acquired by straw buyers such as those used to murder firefighters in Rochester, New York; and

WHEREAS, California and Los Angeles have some of the best and toughest gun laws in the country, yet straw purchasers can still buy, transport, and sell guns illegally within our boundaries because of lax laws in neighboring states; and

WHEREAS, Council File 10-1524 presented by Councilmember Eric Garcetti and approved by the Los Angeles City Council supported similar gun control legislation in the past, specifically the New Gun Buyer letter campaign; and

WHEREAS, California Representative Adam Schiff has introduced H.R. 404, the Straw Purchaser Penalty Enhancement Act, in the United States House of Representatives which aims to pursue and punish "straw purchasers" who buy firearms in bulk and resell them without background checks to ill-intentioned individuals, gangs and cartels:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative program SUPPORT for H.R. 404, which would impose a two-year prison sentence for people who buy guns explicitly to resell them.

PRESENTED BY: Eric Garcetti

SECONDED BY: Paul Krutz

ORIGINAL

January 29, 2013