

## **Palm Beach County Democratic Party**

March 1, 2018

### **Resolution on Strengthening Gun Restriction Laws in Order to Prevent the Non-Military Use of Assault Rifles such as the AR-15, Multiple Round Ammunition Clips, and Bump Stocks in the State of Florida**

Whereas, the number of mass shootings in the United States has accelerated over the past decades;

Whereas, Florida has experienced mass shootings in Orlando and Parkland;

Whereas, dozens of people, including many children, have been shot to death and many more have been injured in mass shootings in a nightclub and a school;

Whereas, the rights of Floridians to own guns should not extend to the use of assault weapons for civilian use;

Whereas, the use of assault weapons, multiple ammunition clips, and bump stocks are designed for killing many people as quickly and efficiently as possible, and intended as weapons of war;

Whereas, bump stocks increase the speed and deadly power of an assault weapons to the levels consistent with fully automatic weapons which are already illegal;

Whereas, residents in Florida have a right to be safe in their schools, places of business and government, entertainment venues, centers of worship, recreational facilities, and all other public gathering places;

Whereas, disturbed individuals can easily purchase these weapons of mass murder with criminal intent;

Whereas, disturbed individuals have not necessarily been adjudicated as being mentally ill, although others, including mental health professionals, may have recognized these individuals as having violent tendencies;

Whereas, young, disturbed individuals, especially those with grudges toward a specific target, can purchase these weapons of mass murder at the age when the state of Florida recognizes that young people can still legally attend public school through age 20;

Whereas, the present system of background checks has been cumbersome, inefficient, and ineffective, thus allowing disturbed individuals to purchase these weapons of mass murder without serious preventive measures;

Whereas, as the present system creates an unwarranted exemption for gun show background checks

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Now therefore,

1. **Be It Resolved** that the Palm Beach County Democratic Party urges the Florida State Legislature to pass legislation and the Governor of Florida to sign bills that ban the sale of assault weapons, multiple magazines of ammunition, and bump stocks.
2. **Be It Further Resolved**, that the Palm Beach County Democratic Party urges the Florida State Legislature to pass legislation and the Governor of Florida to sign a bill increasing the legal age of purchase of any firearm to 21.
3. **Be It Further Resolved**, that the Palm Beach County Democratic Party urges the Florida State Legislature to pass legislation and the Governor of Florida to sign a bill requiring the creation of a system of universal background checks, including gun show background checks that can succeed at recognizing people with violent criminal records and preventing the sale of any firearms to those individuals.
4. **Be It Further Resolved**, that the Palm Beach County Democratic Party urges the Florida State Legislature to pass legislation and the Governor of Florida to sign a bill giving mental health professionals the ability to either temporarily designate a patient as unfit to purchase firearms pending adjudication or to give law enforcement the ability to temporarily seize the patient's existing firearms pending adjudication.