

Date Adopted
February 5, 2020

Committee
Administrative

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE COUNTY OF SALEM A SECOND
AMENDMENT/LAWFUL GUN OWNER COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed," and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey was the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights, including the right to keep and bear arms, and the New Jersey Supreme Court has recognized it as fundamental right of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, certain legislation introduced in the State Legislature and certain legislation introduced in the current session of the United States Congress could have the effect of infringing on the rights of law abiding citizens to keep and bear arms, as guaranteed by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders is concerned about the passage of any bill containing language which could be interpreted as infringing the rights of the citizens of the County of Salem to keep and bear arms or could begin a slippery slope of restrictions on the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of the County of Salem; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders desires to express its deep commitment to the Second Amendment rights of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders desires to express its opposition to any law that would unconstitutionally restrict the rights under the Second Amendment of the citizens of Salem County; and

WHEREAS, the Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders desires to express its intent to stand as a County for Second Amendment rights and to oppose, within the limits of the Constitution of the United States of America, any efforts to unconstitutionally restrict such rights, and to use such legal means at its disposal to protect the rights of the citizens to keep and bear arms;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Salem, hereby expresses its intent to uphold the Second Amendment Rights of the citizens of the County of Salem; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Salem hereby declares its intent to oppose unconstitutional restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms, and shall not endorse, nor enforce those restrictions deemed unconstitutional; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Salem shall be deemed a "Second Amendment/Lawful Gun Owner County."


BENJAMIN H. LAURY, Freeholder Director
Board of Chosen Freeholders

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Salem on February 5, 2020.


STACY L. PENNINGTON
Clerk of the Board

RECORD OF VOTE

FREEHOLDER	RESOLUTION MOVED	RESOLUTION SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
G. Ostrum, Jr.	✓		✓			
C. Hassler			✓			
L. Ware		✓	✓			
R.S. Griscom			✓			
B. Laury			✓			

✓ Indicates Vote

Department Initials _____