

**RESOLUTION URGING THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF  
CONNECTICUT TO REQUIRE GUN OWNERS WHO OPEN CARRY TO  
PRODUCE THEIR GUN PERMITS UPON REQUEST OF LAW  
ENFORCEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, it is legal in the State of Connecticut for the owner of a gun to carry it in open fashion, in such a way that it is observable by others (“open carry”); and

**WHEREAS**, although state statute in Connecticut requires gun owners who open carry to have their gun permits on their person, law enforcement officers may not ask them to produce their permits to verify the existence or validity of the permit unless said officers have reasonable suspicion of a crime; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who open carry sometimes cause alarm among members of the public who observe them with a gun that is not concealed, and such situations have the potential to escalate into dangerous confrontations; and

**WHEREAS**, it is detrimental to public safety for law enforcement officers to be unable to verify the existence and validity of a gun permit unless they have reasonable suspicion of a crime, given the significant amount of violence that occurs in the community involving the use of guns; and

**WHEREAS**, most of the gun violence is being committed by persons who are legally unable to possess a gun permit; and

**WHEREAS**, public safety would be enhanced if state statute were amended to allow law enforcement officers to request that a person who is open carrying a gun produce their gun permit even if the officer does not have reasonable suspicion of a crime; and

**WHEREAS**, it is acknowledged that some people have concerns with allowing law enforcement to request a gun owner to produce their permit even when there is no reasonable suspicion of crime, such as selective enforcement and racial profiling, possible infringement of Second Amendment rights, and possible infringement of Fourth Amendment rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the above-referenced concerns are outweighed by the enhancement to public safety that would result from an amendment to state statute to allow law enforcement to request a gun owner to produce their permit even when there is no reasonable suspicion of crime, since the intrusion suffered by a permit holder having to produce their gun permit is a very brief and limited intrusion.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford hereby urges the Connecticut State Legislature to amend state statute to

allow law enforcement officers to request that a person who is open carrying a gun produce their gun permit even if the officer does not have reasonable suspicion of a crime.