



South Dakota Sheriffs' Association

Post Office Box 130, Howard, SD 57349-0130

Staci Eggert, Executive Director

Email: admin@southdakotasheriffs.org

www.southdakotasheriffs.org

Whereas, the primary mission of the Sheriff is to ensure public safety

Whereas, the Sheriffs take an oath of office to enforce and defend the United States Constitution and the South Dakota Constitution and laws.

Whereas, we support the strong gun heritage that has existed in South Dakota for generations and we continue to stress gun safety as a paramount tenet of gun ownership.

Whereas, the cause of violence, including gun violence, must be addressed on many fronts, including improved mental health treatment, drugs, breakdown of the family, strengthening laws that prevent or reduce the access of legally prohibited persons to firearms and vigorous enforcement of existing laws.

Whereas, we would support legislation which would assist in financing school resource officer programs or other programs with adequate training for school staff.

Whereas, we look to our law makers to provide legislation based on meaningful discourse that addresses the complexity of evil, mental health, public safety, and preservation of civil rights.

Whereas, we do not believe banning certain weapons will create the safety we seek; it will only serve to continue the gun control controversy and prolong the failure to focus on the real issue.

Whereas, the second amendment of the United States Constitution provides for the right of the people to keep and bear arms and the South Dakota Sheriffs' Association supports the 2nd Amendment.

Whereas, we support efforts to seek our highest court's ruling on the constitutionality of any rule, law or directive concerning additional restrictions on firearm ownership, and/or the banning of specific firearms or magazines.

Whereas, the doctrine of judicial review grants to the United States Supreme Court and the lower courts the power to determine the constitutionality of any law and sheriffs do not possess the legal authority to interpret the constitutionality of any law.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, the South Dakota Sheriffs' Association supports the rights conferred by the Second Amendment and further recognizes the ultimate authority of the courts in interpreting the scope of those constitutional rights.