

TOWN OF HOPKINTON, RHODE ISLAND
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO RHODE ISLAND HOUSE BILLS H7035,
H7755, H8068, H8071, AND H8075

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Hopkinton recognizes the constitutional rights of its residents, including the right to keep and bear arms as protected by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 22 of the Rhode Island Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Rhode Island House Bills H7035, H7755, H8068, H8071, and H8075 propose new restrictions on the lawful purchase, possession, ownership, or transfer of firearms; and

WHEREAS, these proposed measures would impose additional burdens on responsible, law-abiding gun owners while offering no clear evidence that such restrictions would reduce violent crime, which is overwhelmingly committed with illegally obtained firearms; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council is concerned that these bills would disproportionately impact responsible citizens, including those of limited financial means, by increasing regulatory complexity, fees, waiting periods, and prohibitions that may hinder their ability to exercise a constitutionally protected right; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council believes that public-safety policy should focus on enforcing existing laws, addressing illegal firearm trafficking, supporting mental-health resources, and strengthening community-based violence-prevention initiatives rather than imposing broad restrictions on lawful firearm ownership; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council further recognizes that the enforcement of these proposed measures may divert law-enforcement resources away from addressing violent offenders and toward monitoring or penalizing otherwise responsible residents.

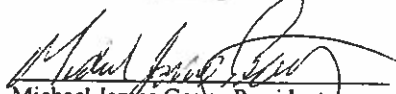
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council hereby expresses its strong opposition to Rhode Island House Bills H7035, H7755, H8068, H8071, and H8075, on the grounds that they infringe upon constitutional rights, impose unnecessary burdens on lawful gun owners, and fail to meaningfully address the root causes of violent crime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hopkinton Town Council urges the members of the Rhode Island General Assembly to reject these bills and instead pursue policies that uphold constitutional freedoms while focusing on proven, targeted approaches to improving public safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Governor of Rhode Island, and the members of the General Assembly representing the Town of Hopkinton.

The **RESOLUTION** shall take effect upon passage.

Passed as a resolution of the Hopkinton Town Council this 6th day of April, 2026.


Michael James Geary, President
Hopkinton Town Council

ATTEST: Marita D. Murray
Marita D. Murray, Town Clerk

