

RESOLUTION 2023-D

SUBJECT: Spartan Strong: Emphasizing AOA/AOIA Stance on Gun Reforms to Political Leaders

SUBMITTED TO: Michigan Osteopathic Association House of Delegates

SUBMITTED BY: Michigan Osteopathic Association Student Liaison Committee

REFERRED TO: Public Affairs Reference Committee

RECEOMMENDATON: Approve as Amended

ACTION TAKEN AT MOA HOD:

WHEREAS, the National Rifle Association (NRA) continues to lobby for the ~~continued~~ use of semi-automatic-style rifles, such as the AR-15, with ~~very limited intentions of increasing~~ no corresponding gun safety laws¹ or common sense legislation; and

WHEREAS, on the night of February 13, 2023, Michigan State University was impacted by a mass shooting that had taken place on campus, causing three fatalities, leaving five in critical condition, and many traumatized; and

WHEREAS, the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) calls out for congress to label gun violence as a national public health issue, fund appropriate research on gun violence as part of future federal budgets, and establish constitutionally appropriate restrictions on the manufacturing and sale of large-capacity magazines and firearms with features designed to increase their rapid and extended killing capacity^{2,3}; and

~~**WHEREAS**, countless allopathic specialty organizations have been recently identified for making significant contributions towards candidates that receive lobbying support from the NRA going against their policies on increased background checks and increased gun safety⁴; and~~

WHEREAS, the American Osteopathic Information Association (AOIA) currently has formal relations with political figures through their Osteopathic Political Action Committee (OPAC), in which they continue to advocate for the Osteopathic profession⁵; now, therefore be it

~~**RESOLVED**, that the MOA advocates to the AOIA to implement regular programming to revisit and emphasizes AOA policy on gun safety to political figures for consideration and, be it further~~

~~**RESOLVED**, THAT THE MOA REGULARLY ADVOCATES THROUGH APPROPRIATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY GROUPS REGARDING AOA AND MOA POLICIES ON GUN SAFETY; AND, BE IT FURTHER~~

~~**RESOLVED**, that the MOA develops and advocates to the AOIA to develop a system of consideration when lobbying stakeholders to highlight any and all contradictions the stakeholder may have against AOA/MOA policy; and, be it further~~

RESOLVED, that the MOA formally recognizes gun violence as a Public Health Emergency and ~~DEVELOPS A TASK FORCE TO FURTHER EXPLORE THE IMPACTS OF GUN VIOLENCE ON PUBLIC~~

HEALTH WITH A SUPPORTING WHITE PAPER SUMMARIZING THEIR FINDINGS TO PRESENT AT THE MOA HOD IN 2024; AND, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE MOA FORWARDS THIS APPROPRIATELY FORMATTED RESOLUTION TO THE AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION FOR REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION. ~~to amend H-630 to indicate it as well.~~

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FISCAL NOTE:

REFER TO:

~~LEAD AUTHORS: Syed Ahmad Rizvi, OMS-II & Urja Parikh, OMS-II~~

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~~BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This resolution has been created as a joint voice from the MOA Student Liaisons that while the policy is on the books, we believe it needs to be adjusted in how it is enforced. We recognize that while gun reforms are not the only contributor to tackling mass shootings, we strongly believe that it does play a major factor.~~ The MOA Student Liaison Committee would like to dedicate this resolution to the three souls that were lost on February 13, 2023: Alexandria Verner, Arielle Anderson, and Brian Fraser. Most notably, we would like to dedicate this resolution as a means of contributing to the medical community on behalf of Arielle, an aspiring medical student.

References

1. Nra-Ila, & Association, N. R. (n.d.). ILA: House-Passed Gun Ban Shows the Importance of the Election This November. Retrieved from <https://www.nraila.org/articles/20220801/house-passed-gun-ban-shows-the-importance-of-the-election-this-november>
2. COMPREHENSIVE GUN VIOLENCE REFORM, H630-A/18, AOA <https://osteopathic.org/wp-content/uploads/policies/Policy-H630-A-18-Comprehensive-Gun-Violence-Reform.pdf>
3. FIREARM VIOLENCE, H442-A/20, AOA, https://osteopathic.org/wp-content/uploads/policies/Policy_H442-A-20_Firearm_Violence.pdf
4. Jeremiah D. Schuur, M. (2019, February 22). Physician Organization—Affiliated PAC Contributions and Candidate Stance on Firearm Regulation. Retrieved from <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2725483>
5. About OPAC. Retrieved from https://www.osteopathicpac.org/Webpublish/controller.aspx?SiteName=OPACNew&Definition=About&SV_Section=About