

MOTION

Gun violence occurs throughout the City of Los Angeles every day. Sadly, it has been reported that mass shootings take place almost daily throughout the nation. While local, state and federal governments discuss ways to stop the violence, it is apparent that funding for gun violence education is needed.

The City of Seattle City Council recently voted unanimously to tax sales of firearms and ammunition with all proceeds from the tax to be used for gun violence prevention research and programs. The tax of \$25 per gun and \$.02 or \$.05 per round of ammunition is expected to garner hundreds of dollars annually. In addition, the approved ordinance would require that gun owners report lost or stolen firearms to police.

While taxing the sales of firearms and ammunition will not prevent gun violence on its own, funding gun violence prevention programs could prove to be an initial step in creating a larger policy to save lives throughout the City and the nation as a whole. With the majority of gun related deaths being suicide or a combination of homicide and suicide, prevention programs may be able to reach those contemplating such measures.

In considering a sales tax on firearms and ammunition, it is important to understand the number of businesses and patrons the tax would affect in the City and the amount the City would collect annually. In addition, having the complete knowledge of other cities throughout the country who have implemented such a tax and/or requirement to report a lost or stolen gun would be necessary to determine whether the tax proceeds and the programs funded or the reporting requirement have had an effect of gun violence in each city.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer report on the feasibility of enacting a City sales tax on firearm and ammunition sales, including the number of businesses and approximate number of patrons that would be affected annually.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Los Angeles Police Department report on gun violence statistics for cities throughout the United States who have implemented a sales tax on firearm and ammunition sales and/or a requirement that gun owners report a lost or stolen gun to the police.

PRESENTED BY _____
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

SECONDED BY _____