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3 **Title: Reduction of Gun Violence**  
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5 **Introduced by: Cynthia Hegg Krueger, MD, for the Washtenaw County**  
6 **Delegation**  
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8 **Original Author: Cynthia Hegg Krueger, MD**  
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10 **Referred to: Reference Committee D**  
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12 **House Action: Adopted as Amended**  
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15 **Whereas, every year in America there are 30,000 gun related deaths and**  
16 **70,000 gun injuries, and**

17  
18 **Whereas, suicide by gun is over 90 percent fatal while suicide by pill is**  
19 **less than 5 percent fatal, and**

20  
21 **Whereas, all other industrialized countries have far fewer gun related**  
22 **deaths and injuries by a factor of 6-8 times, and**

23  
24 **Whereas, this gun related violence has been estimated to cost between 2**  
25 **and 52 billion dollars annually, and**

26  
27 **Whereas, 8 children die each day from gun-inflicted injuries, while 42 are**  
28 **shot and if there is a gun in the home a child is 3 times more likely to be shot,**  
29 **and**

30  
31 **Whereas, women who live with a gun in the household are much more**  
32 **likely to be threatened, shot, or killed than those of any other industrialized**  
33 **country, and**

34  
35 **Whereas, in the United States we are not more violent, but have more**  
36 **guns, fewer gun laws, and less reporting requirements, and**

37  
38 **Whereas, in our current national culture guns and violence are often**  
39 **glorified in media and gaming<sup>1,2</sup>, and**

40  
41 **Whereas, given the above and events of gun violence in public venues**  
42 **over the last decade, that gun violence in the USA has become a serious public**  
43 **health crisis, and**

44  
45 **Whereas, physicians have made a difference in this country's public**  
46 **health by speaking out and acting, and**

47  
48 **Whereas, given the remarkable success of the banning of assault (semi-**  
49 **automatic and automatic) weapons in Australia in 1996 under then Prime**

50 **Minister John Howard, accompanied by banning importation of such weapons**  
51 **and a federally financed gun buy-back scheme<sup>3</sup>; therefore be it**  
52

53 **RESOLVED: That MSMS support federal and state legislation ensuring**  
54 **that physicians can fulfill their role in preventing firearm injuries by health**  
55 **screening, patient counseling on gun safety, and referral to mental health**  
56 **services for those with behavioral/emotional medical conditions; and be it**  
57 **further**  
58

59 **RESOLVED: That MSMS support federal and state evidence-based**  
60 **research on firearm injury and the use of state/national firearms injury**  
61 **databases (National Violent Death Reporting System) to inform state/federal**  
62 **health policy.**  
63

64 **RESOLVED: That our AMA support federal and state evidence-based**  
65 **research on firearm injury and the use of state/national firearms injury**  
66 **databases (National Violent Death Reporting System) to inform state/federal**  
67 **health policy.**  
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**WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE**

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<sup>1</sup> Hemenway, David: Private Guns, Public Health University of Michigan Press, 2006.

<sup>2</sup> [www.bradycampaign.org/facts/gunviolence?s=1](http://www.bradycampaign.org/facts/gunviolence?s=1)

<sup>3</sup> [www.nytimes.com/2013/1/17/opinion/australia-banned-assault-weapons-america-can-too.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/1/17/opinion/australia-banned-assault-weapons-america-can-too.html)