

Smyth County, Virginia 121 Bagley Circle, Suite 100 Marion, VA 24354

Atkins District Charles Atkins Chilhowie District Wade H. Blevins Jr. Royal Oak District Judy Wyant

Michael L. Carter County Administrator

Alicia Richardson Assistant County Administrator

SMYTH COUNTY, VIRGINIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." and

WHEREAS, Article 1, Section 13, of the Constitution of Virginia provides "that a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural, and safe defense of a free state, therefore, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed; that standing armies, in the time of peace, should be avoided as dangerous to liberty; and that in all cases the military should be under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power." and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors is concerned about the passage of any bill containing language which could be interpreted as infringing the rights of citizens of Smyth County to keep and bear arms or could begin a slippery slope of restrictions on the Second Amendment rights of the citizens of Smyth County; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its deep commitment to the rights of all citizens of Smyth County to keep and bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express opposition to any law that would unconstitutionally restrict the rights under the Second Amendment of the citizens of Smyth County to bear arms; and

WHEREAS, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its intent to stand as a Sanctuary County for Second Amendment rights and to oppose, within the limits of the Constitutions of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, any efforts to unconstitutionally restrict such rights, and to use such legal means at its disposal to protect the right of the citizens to keep and bear arms, including through legal action, the power of appropriation of public funds, and the right to petition for redress of grievances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Smyth County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its intent to uphold the Second Amendment rights of citizens of Smyth County and its intent that public funds of the County not be used to restrict Second Amendment rights to aid in the unnecessary and unconstitutional restriction of the rights under the Second Amendment of the citizens of Smyth County to bear arms; and

The Board of Supervisors hereby declares its intent to oppose unconstitutional restrictions on the right to keep and bear arms through such legal means as may be expedient, including without limitation court action; and

The Board of Supervisors hereby declares Smyth County, Virginia, as a "Second Amendment Sanctuary."

Approved this the 10th day of December, 2019

Adopted:

Moved By: Phil Stevenson

Seconded By: Charles Atkins

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

Attest:

M. Todd Dishner, Chairman

Michael L. Carter, County Administrator