

**Livonia Public Schools  
Board of Education Resolution  
December 18, 2017**

**Opposition to Senate Bills 584-586**

**WHEREAS**, a public school district is tasked with providing for the safety and welfare of its students and educating students in a safe and nurturing environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Livonia Public Schools takes this aforementioned responsibility with great commitment and dedication to the students and staff entrusted to us; and

**WHEREAS**, Livonia Public Schools has exhibited its belief that school safety is of primary importance as illustrated by the District's commitment to bond-related safety/security enhancements, staff safety awareness training, police liaison officers, and security personnel servicing our schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Gun Free School Zones Act prohibits possession of a firearm in a school zone, but exempts an individual licensed to carry a firearm under state law. 18 USC 922(q)(2); and

**WHEREAS**, The Michigan Weapon Free School Zone Act similarly prohibits possession of a firearm on school property, but exempts an individual licensed to carry a firearm under state law. MCL 750.237a; and

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan Concealed Pistol Licensing Act prohibits an individual with a concealed pistol license from carrying a concealed pistol on school property. MCL 28.425; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Michigan has not enacted legislation expressly prohibiting individuals who possess a valid Concealed Pistol License ("CPL") from openly carrying firearms in areas otherwise designated as "gun free school zones;" and

**WHEREAS**, in *Michigan Gun Owners, Inc. v Ann Arbor Public Schools* (318 Mich App 338 (2016)) and *Michigan Open Carry v Clio Area School District* (318 Mich App 356 (2016)), the Michigan Court of Appeals found that school districts have the authority to promulgate policies that ban the possession of firearms on school property and at school-sponsored events; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 584 would allow an individual with a Concealed Pistol License to request a special endorsement to carry a concealed firearm into no-carry zones, such as schools, day cares and stadiums with only a minimal amount of additional training; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 586 would prohibit local Board of Education decisions on whether or not to allow weapons on school property by amending Public Act 319 of 1990 to include a school district, community college district and public library in the list of public entities that are prohibited from enacting firearm regulations stricter than any federal or state law; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 586 would not allow a district to set policies regarding firearms except for their own students and staff, this would not cover visiting students or staff for extracurriculars or those who participate in shared time programs; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 8, 2017, the Michigan Senate passed Senate Bills 584-586 which prohibit open carry and permit concealed carry on school grounds, day care centers, sports arenas, large concert halls, taverns, places of worship, hospitals, college dorms or classrooms, and casinos for concealed pistol license holders with extended training; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Rick Snyder has asserted in the past that legislation should include an opt out so that local school boards may decide whether they want to permit weapons or opt out to make the school grounds a weapons free school zone.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Livonia Public Schools opposes Senate Bills 584-586** and urges lawmakers and the Governor to allow local school boards to enact their own policies regarding weapons on school grounds; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Rick Snyder, encouraging his veto of this legislation should it pass through the legislative bodies.

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Dan Centers, Secretary  
Livonia Public Schools  
Board of Education

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Date