

Resolution of the West Paris, Maine

Board of Selectmen

WHEREAS, the West Paris, Maine Board of Selectmen has received significant input from citizens expressing serious concerns about potential gun control legislation and executive action, this statement is intended to respond to those citizen concerns; and

WHEREAS, the West Paris Board of Selectmen believe in the rule of law and supports the US Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Maine. Each member of the Board has taken an oath to "support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Maine". The West Paris Board of Selectmen takes their oath of office seriously and supports protecting all rights guaranteed by both constitutions, including the Second Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Board is expressly forbidden from adopting "any order, ordinance, rule or regulation concerning the sale, purchase, purchases delay, transfer, ownership, use, possession, bearing, transportation, licensing, permitting, registration, taxation or any other matter pertaining to firearms, components, ammunition, or supplies" (Title 25 M.R.S. Section 2001).

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of West Paris, Maine have come together to vote to declare their support for the constitution; right to keep and bear arms and their opposition to any law or executive action that would unconstitutionally restrict that right.

WHEREAS, this resolution affirms our support for the Second Amendment and sends a clear message to our legislators and all elected officials that we respect our citizens' rights under the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and Article 1 of the Maine Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELCETMEN OF WEST PARIS, MAINE THAT:

The Board recognizes that the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution states in part that "the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board recognizes that Article 1, Section 16, of the Maine Constitution reads as follows: "Every citizen has a right to keep and bear arms for the common defense; and this right shall never be questioned."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board, in the event that initiatives are introduced in the United States Congress and the Maine legislature, strongly request that our senators and representatives diligently review and oppose any such legislation that may unconstitutionally restrict the 2nd Amendment and Article 1 rights of our town's citizens, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs the Town Manager to forward a copy of this resolution to the Town's elected representative in the United States Congress and the Maine legislature.

Resolution made by the Board of Selectmen.

ADOPTED at a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, May 15th, 2021.

John Eli White, Selectman

Dale Piirainen, Selectman

Jennifer Billings, Selectman

ATTEST:

Signature: _____

Name: Joy M. Downing, Clerk