RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COMMON SENSE SAFEGUARDS TO REDUCE THE THREAT OF TERRORISM AND MASS KILLINGS

OCA-R 1602

WHEREAS, OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates continues to strive toward fulfilling the hopes and aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, OCA supports the right and expectation that all are to live their lives free from the threat of harm from terrorism and mass killings; and,

WHEREAS, OCA asserts that it is imperative that the U.S. government discuss, debate, compromise where needed to reach consensus upon common sense safeguards to prevent and reduce gun violence and terrorism; and,

WHEREAS, OCA supports the adoption, implementation and enforcement of common sense safeguards that increase the safety of all individuals; and,

WHEREAS, OCA acknowledges that unfettered access to firearms leads to more gun violence which disproportionally affects communities of color\(^1\); and,

WHEREAS, Several gathering spaces where Asian Pacific American communities live, work, congregate, and study have been sites of mass killings\(^2\); and,

WHEREAS, OCA recognizes that an overwhelming majority of Asian Americans\(^5\) support stricter gun laws; and,

WHEREAS, In 2015, 13,438 individuals died of gun violence\(^6\) in the US; and,

WHEREAS, In the same year, there were 332 mass shootings\(^8\) in the US; and,

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\(^7\) The reported number does not include death by suicide.

\(^8\) Id at 6.

\(^9\) A mass shooting is defined as a shooting involving 4 or more victims.
WHEREAS, 82% of firearms involved in mass shootings in the last four decades were legally purchased under existing gun laws\textsuperscript{10}.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OCA supports common sense safeguards to reduce the number of individuals harmed from gun violence, including but not limited to administrative and legislative proposals regulating gun purchases; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that OCA directs its National President to coordinate with OCA National Center staff to develop a national strategy, in communication and cooperation with existing and new partner organizations, to advocate for common sense safeguards that to reduce the number of individuals harmed from gun violence.

\textsuperscript{10}Mother Jones. (June 12, 2016). \textit{US Mass Shootings, 1982-2016}. \url{http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2012/12/mass-shootings-mother-jones-full-data}.  