

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the Legislative Research Commission
2 to study gun violence in the Commonwealth.

3 WHEREAS, gun violence is an epidemic plaguing every state in the country; and

4 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the Bipartisan Safer
5 Communities Act in 2022 in an effort to reduce gun crime; and

6 WHEREAS, both Democrats and Republicans, including Senate Minority Leader
7 Mitch McConnell, supported the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, demonstrating that
8 gun violence prevention is an area where legislators can reach a bipartisan consensus; and

9 WHEREAS, Kentucky has one of the nation's highest rates of gun violence; and

10 WHEREAS, the rate of gun deaths in Kentucky has increased 38 percent from 2013
11 to 2022, with an average of 826 Kentuckians dying from gun violence every year; and

12 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes that gun violence is a serious
13 problem in Kentucky, as evidenced by the passage of House Bill 5 and Senate Bill 20
14 during the 2024 Regular Session; and

15 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has a sacred obligation to ensure that citizens of
16 the Commonwealth can live peacefully and freely, which includes the freedom to live
17 without fear of gun violence; and

18 WHEREAS, the General Assembly can accomplish that goal without interfering
19 with the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms;

20 NOW, THEREFORE,

21 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
22 ***Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:***

23 ➔Section 1. The staff of the Legislative Research Commission is directed to
24 study the causes of gun violence and ways to prevent gun violence in the Commonwealth
25 of Kentucky.

26 ➔Section 2. The study shall include but not be limited to an analysis of:

27 (1) Data on both fatal and nonfatal gun-related incidents in Kentucky;

- 1 (2) Data on the impact of gun violence on the Medicaid budget;
- 2 (3) Legislative action taken by other states and the federal government regarding
- 3 the causes and costs of gun violence;
- 4 (4) Existing laws in the Commonwealth that address the issue of gun violence and
- 5 their effectiveness; and
- 6 (5) Existing resources to prevent gun violence.

7 ➔Section 3. (1) Staff shall prepare a report of the completed study that shall

8 include but not be limited to a:

- 9 (a) Description of the causes and contributing factors to gun violence in the
- 10 Commonwealth;
- 11 (b) Detailed analysis of the data listed in Section 2 of this Resolution;
- 12 (c) Discussion of any data in Section 2 of this Resolution that is not available for
- 13 analysis; and
- 14 (d) Discussion of any policy options to reduce the rate of gun violence.

15 (2) The report shall be submitted to the Legislative Research Commission for

16 referral to the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary and the Interim Joint Committee on

17 Health Services no later than December 1, 2025.

18 ➔Section 4. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the

19 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the

20 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to

21 designate a study completion date.