

## Essex County Board of Supervisors

Resolution No. 309

November 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

## RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SENATE BILL S.7645 THAT REPEALS CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS ON CERTAIN FIREARM AND AMMUNITION PURCHASES

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Tyler, who moved its adoption.

Upon the recommendation of the Ways and Means Committee of this Body, and the same appearing proper and necessary.

WHEREAS, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins sponsored Bill S.51001, referred to as the "Concealed Carry Improvement Act" (CCIA) which amended the Penal Law, the General Business Law, the Executive Law, the Civil Practice Law and Rules, and the State Finance Law, in relation to licensing and other provisions relating to firearms; and

WHEREAS, said so-called "Concealed Carry Improvements Act" was signed into law by Governor Kathy Hochul on July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, said Act included regulations that allow the State to have oversight over background checks for firearms and ammunition purchases; and

**WHEREAS**, said Act amended State Executive Law to add a new Section 228, authorizing the New York State Police to run National Instant Criminal background (NICS) checks and serve as a State point of contact rather than utilizing the current NICS Background Check System; and

**WHEREAS**, said Act also created a new bureau within the State Police financed by new "background check fees" upon purchasers to cover the costs associated with performing state background checks; and

**WHEREAS**, these provisions of the so-called CCIA have resulted in onerous background check fees upon citizens equal to \$2.50 for every ammunition purchase and \$9.00 for every firearm purchase with the potential for increases without legislative approval; and

**WHEREAS**, the CCIA infringes on the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms guaranteed by the Second Amendment; and

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill S.7645, sponsored by Senator Mark Walczyk would repeal Subdivision 5 of Section 228 of the Executive Law of S.51001 relating to the background check fees for firearms and ammunition as included in the CCIA.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Essex County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses Senate Bill S.7645 that would repeal certain provisions of the Executive Law establishing a fee for background checks on certain firearm and ammunition purchases and amends State Finance Law, in relation to the source of funds for the background check fund; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall forward copies of this Resolution to: Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Daniel G. Stec, Assemblyman Matthew Simpson, New York State Association of Counties, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

This resolution was seconded by Supervisor Monty, and duly adopted.

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF ESSEX )ss:

*I, JUDITH A. GARRISON*, Clerk of the Essex County Board of Supervisors, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy with the original resolution filed in this office on the 6th day of November, 2023, and that it is a correct and true copy thereof.

IN TESTIMONY THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 6th day November, 2023.

Essex NY County Indiana

Clerk of the Essex County Board of Supervisors