

10 A RESOLUTION CONCERNING
20 THE POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL FIREARMS IN VIOLENT CRIME, ON
30 SCHOOL PROPERTY OR TOGETHER WITH NARCOTICS

40 WHEREAS: The implementation of the Federal Project Exile program in Richmond, VA
50 produced results stating that, "Homicides by firearm in 1998 were
60 approximately 40% below 1997. In the same period, armed robberies
70 declined 30%. As a result, the citizens feel and are safer," (US Attorney's Office
80 for the Eastern District); and,

90 WHEREAS: According to Virginia state reports, in the Richmond experiment the armed
100 robbery rate for 1998 declined 29%. Total Homicides by firearm in 1997 - 122;
110 1998 - 78; 1999 - 5; and,

120 WHEREAS: Project Exile's application received support from Handgun Control
130 Inc. Chairman Sarah Brady, "Your work is succeeding in getting guns out of
140 criminals...The results in Richmond are impressive," (Washington Post,
150 6/18/98); and,

160 WHEREAS: The NRA also supports the Exile Project; and,

170 WHEREAS: Maryland is ranked 3rd in murder and violent crime, it is still first in robberies
180 according to the FBI Uniform Crime Reports; and,

190 WHEREAS: Current gun control statutes have failed in reducing the violent crimes in the
200 current system and stricter penalties are needed; and,

210 WHEREAS: People are afraid to testify against violent crime offenders because they believe
220 that the criminals may soon return to the streets and mandatory sentencing is a
230 necessity explained Baltimore Mayor, Martin O'Malley, in front of the
240 Maryland General Assembly in his support of Project Exile; and,

250 WHEREAS: Companies would heavily favor project exile to reduce robbery and
260 violent crime with firearms; and,

270 WHEREAS: In Virginia, these very same businesses fronted a substantial portion of the
280 funds to public awareness about Project Exile.

290 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the state of
300 Maryland to enforce tough bail restrictions and impose mandatory minimum
310 sentences of five years in a federal prison; and,

320 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these new sentencing restrictions should apply to
330 anyone who has a prior conviction for a violent felony and who is
340 convicted of possessing a firearm; and,

350 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these new sentencing restrictions should also apply to
360 those who are convicted of possessing a firearm on school property with the
370 intent to use it, or displaying it in a threatening manner; and,

380 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these new sentencing restrictions should also apply to
390 those who are convicted of possessing a firearm and drugs such as cocaine or
400 heroin, or convicted of possessing more than a pound of marijuana with the
410 intent to sell; and,

420 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all exile cases should be prosecuted in federal courts; and,

430 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the term `violent crime' means murder and non negligent
440 manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and,

450 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The Maryland Student Legislature also urges the state of
460 Maryland to require all Maryland police officers (state and local) to attend two
470 hour-long lectures on federal firearm statutes, the procedures of Project Exile,
480 and further training in search and seizure issues.

490 MANDATES: Governor-Elect Robert Ehrlich
500 Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
510 House Speaker Casper R. Taylor Jr.

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