

R040-0304

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMITS**

20 **WHEREAS:** The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution states “A well regulated
30 militia, necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and
40 bear arms, shall not be infringed;”and,

50 **WHEREAS:** Police protection is not a right granted by the US Constitution; and,

60 **WHEREAS:** The average criminal confrontation is over before law enforcement can intervene;
70 and,

80 **WHEREAS:** Only 34.7 % of a 10,614 member, ten state law enforcement organization felt that
90 stricter gun control laws were an effective way of controlling violent crime; and,

100 **WHEREAS:** 38 other states in the US allow citizens the right to carry concealed weapons; and,

110 **WHEREAS:** The state of Vermont allows citizens the right to carry concealed weapons without
120 obtaining a permit, yet still has one of the lowest crime rates in the US; and,

130 **WHEREAS:** Over the course of six years, the state of Florida issued 204,108 permits, of which
140 only 17 were revoked due to permit holders being involved in crime, and the state
150 the state of Oregon had only four out of 14,000 permit holders involved in crime;
160 and,

170 **WHEREAS:** Citizens who are granted a concealed carry weapons permit are less likely to
180 commit crimes, especially those involving firearms; and,

190 **WHEREAS:** Most firearms used in crime are obtained through illegal means such as robbery or
illegal trade often referred to as the black market; and,

200 **WHEREAS:** A sample of prison inmates in four states found that more than 50% had stolen a
210 gun at least once in their lives, and 24 % had stolen their most recently obtained
220 handgun; and,

230 **WHEREAS:** Of incarcerated felons surveyed by the US Department of Justice, 34% have been
240 driven away, wounded, or captured by armed citizens, and 40% have decided
250 against committing crimes for fear that their would-be victims were armed; and,

260 **WHEREAS:** Currently, only Law Enforcement personnel are eligible to obtain a concealed
270 weapons permit.

280 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland
290 General Assembly to pass legislation allowing Maryland citizens to be eligible to
300 obtain concealed weapons permits.

310 **MANDATES:** Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
320 Lieutenant Governor Michael Steele
330 Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch
340 Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
350 State Senator Brian Frosh
360 State Senator Ralph Hughes
370 State Senator Joseph R. Bartlett
380 State Senator Justin D. Ross

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