



Resolution to Curtail Assault Rifles in Urban Zones

WHEREAS [RCW 9.41.270](#) states that it is “unlawful for any person to carry, exhibit, display or draw any firearm... at a time and place that either manifests an intent to intimidate another or that warrants alarm for the safety of other persons.”

WHEREAS the violence associated with assault rifles on American streets, in public and private schools, government buildings and structures, and places of business has led to mass casualties,

WHEREAS the threat of violence such weapons pose to American citizens is mentally and emotionally intimidating, as such behavior poses an implied threat to the physical safety of persons in public spaces,

WHEREAS the policing of heavily armed persons intimidating citizens through the exhibit or display of assault rifles in urban zones in America has been nonexistent,

WHEREAS [94% of Washingtonians live in urban areas*](#) and about [98% of the land in Washington State is identified as rural**](#),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Thurston County Democrats encourages our legislators to adopt a stance that carrying assault rifles in public spaces be illegal within [urban zones in the state of Washington**](#) and that transport and storage of such weapons must be conducted within locked gun safes, safety cases, or with trigger locks actively in place in order to alleviate the threat of perceived intent to violate and intimidate our citizenry.

* Population of Rural-Urban Disparities can be found at <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/346090.pdf>

** Urban counties as defined by the USDA using census data can be found at https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/DataFiles/53180/25602_WA.pdf?v=0#:~:text=Rural%20locations%20are%20those%20outside,based%20on%20Census

The Thurston County Democratic Central Committee passed this Resolution on October 26, 2020.