

FORSYTH COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2020 AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

SUBJECT:

OPTION 1: RESOLUTION DECLARING FORSYTH COUNTY TO BE A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS PROTECTION COUNTY AND DECLARING SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION OF SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

OPTION 2: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION OR COMMENTS:

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION: See Attached

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

SIGNATURE: _____ **COUNTY MANAGER** **DATE:** February 3, 2020

**RESOLUTION DECLARING FORSYTH COUNTY TO BE A
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS PROTECTION COUNTY AND DECLARING
SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION OF SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS**

WHEREAS it is recognized that the Constitution of the United States of America is the supreme law of the land;

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of the United States has, through multiple rulings, upheld an individual's rights to keep and bear arms, and the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution states, "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.";

WHEREAS members of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners have taken an oath to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners wishes to express its deep commitment to protecting all Constitutional rights of Forsyth County citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners calls upon the North Carolina General Assembly and the United States Congress to use all their powers and authority to protect our citizens' freedom under the Constitution and specifically the Second Amendment.

Adopted this the 6th day of February 2020.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF THE
UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS in 1787, the Constitutional Convention met in Philadelphia and worked through the representatives' many differences in philosophy, politics, and interests to propose a revolutionary Constitution with three branches of government, the executive, legislative and judicial, each held in check by the other;

WHEREAS in 1789, North Carolina became the twelfth state to ratify the Constitution which became the foundational document for our nation and remains the oldest written constitution in the world;

WHEREAS during the ratification process, many states recognized the need for amendments to the Constitution to protect the liberties of the American people and conditioned their ratification upon adoption of such amendments;

WHEREAS in 1791, the states ratified the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the Constitution;

WHEREAS these amendments notably protected freedom of speech, assembly, religion, and the press (1st), the right to bear arms (2nd), freedom from unreasonable search and seizure (4th), due process (5th), and civil and criminal rights (6th, 7th, and 8th);

WHEREAS the courts of the United States and of North Carolina have the authority to rule upon the constitutionality of laws;

WHEREAS the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners is required to follow each applicable federal and North Carolina law unless a court determines the law to be unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS each member of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners has taken an oath to support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of North Carolina, to the extent they are not inconsistent with federal law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners reaffirms its oath to support and maintain the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights, and the laws of the United States, in addition to the Constitution and laws of North Carolina, to the extent they are not inconsistent with federal law.

Adopted this the 6th day of February 2020.