A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Langley supporting the passage of Initiative 594, which seeks to close the loopholes in the existing state criminal background check system that allows convicted felons, domestic abusers, and the seriously mentally ill to purchase firearms from strangers online and at gun shows with no questions asked

WHEREAS, Current law in Washington State does not require unlicensed sellers of firearms to conduct a background check, allowing criminals and dangerous individuals to still obtain firearms online and at gun shows in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, Criminal background checks reduce access to guns for convicted felons, domestic abusers and people with serious mental illnesses and since its inception, the gun background check system has blocked 2.2 million gun sales to prohibited people; and

WHEREAS, In states that require background checks on all guns sales, 38% fewer women are shot to death by their partners and 39% fewer police officers are shot to death with handguns; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of Langley realizes initiative 594 strikes a balance between respecting individuals’ Second Amendment rights ensuring the current background check loophole is closed to aid in the reduction of criminals and other dangerous people obtaining firearms in the city of Langley and Washington State; and

WHEREAS, The City Council of Langley endorses policies that keep guns out of dangerous hands while respecting the rights of responsible gun owners, and strongly believes Washington State should take action to close the loophole in the laws of Washington State; now, therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANGLEY DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council supports the passage of Initiative 594, which makes sure guns sold in Washington State go through the same background check system.

Section 2. The City Council authorizes the Mayor to forward this Resolution to the City’s congressional delegation to the 114th Congress.

Section 3. The City Council authorizes the Mayor to forward this Resolution to the City’s delegation to the Washington State Legislature and the Chief of Police.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Langley and approved by the Mayor at a regularly scheduled public meeting this ____ day of ____________, 2014.

__________________________________
FRED McCARTHY, Mayor
ATTEST:

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DEBBIE L. MAHLER, Director of Finance/Clerk