

Warren County Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION NO. 110 OF 2013

Resolution introduced by Supervisors Monroe, Bentley, Montesi, Girard, Sokol, Wood and Frasier

EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PROCESS EMPLOYED BY THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE WHEN ADOPTING THE NY SAFE ACT

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2013, the New York State Legislature passed the NY Secure Ammunition and Fire Arms Enforcement Act of 2013 (NY SAFE Act) and Governor Cuomo signed the legislation into law the same day, and

WHEREAS, the NY SAFE Act is purported to be the most comprehensive gun law in the nation, and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Supervisors maintains that when a State government decides to test and restrict the boundaries of constitutional protections, such action should be done with prudence and caution and only after our elected State legislators have had ample opportunity to study, review and debate the need for new or further legislation and the merit of any proposed legislation, and the affected public including lawful gun owners and non-gun owners in New York State should have an opportunity to be heard and comment upon proposed legislation which will test and restrict fundamental constitutional rights including rights guaranteed under the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the NY SAFE Act was adopted by the New York State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Cuomo in an unprecedented expedited fashion and completely devoid of any opportunity for our elected State legislators to study, review and debate the legislation and without any opportunity for the public to comment upon the legislation or to have any input whatsoever upon the legislation, and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Board of Supervisors recognizes the horrific and needless loss of life and irreparable damage that can be caused when violent criminals or mentally ill individuals possess and use guns including so-called assault-style weapons, and

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WHEREAS, as noted by the New York State Sheriff's Association in response to the NY SAFE Act, a more full and detailed public discussion and debate about how to keep guns out of the hands of the mentally ill and violent criminals is desperately needed and, as adopted, NY SAFE Act focuses too much on infringing the rights of law abiding gun owners in New York State while not addressing in any meaningful fashion keeping guns including so-called assault-style weapons out of the hands of criminals and the mentally ill, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors expresses its dissatisfaction with the process engaged by Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature in enacting the NY SAFE Act, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors encourages Governor Cuomo to meet with interested parties to address problems that have arisen due to the hasty enactment of NY SAFE Act and thereafter propose amendments to NY SAFE Act which will protect the rights of law abiding gun owners in New York State and focus upon the real problem of guns including so-called assault-style weapons being in the hands of criminals and the mentally ill, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to forward copies of this resolution to the New York State Association of Counties; the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks; Governor Andrew M. Cuomo; Senator Charles E. Schumer; Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand; Congressman William Owens; Senator Elizabeth O'C. Little; and Assemblyman Daniel G. Stec.