Democratic Town Committee of Jamestown, Rhode Island
Resolution in support of Assault Weapon and
High Capacity Magazine Ban

WHEREAS:

Laws banning assault weapons are consistent with the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the Second Amendment to the United State Constitution, in that the 2008 ruling in District of Columbia v. Heller, the Supreme Court stated for the first time that the Second Amendment protects a law abiding citizen’s right to possess an operable handgun in the home for self-defense, but the Court noted that the right is limited, including the limitation that the Second Amendment would not preclude banning “dangerous and unusual weapons”.

WHEREAS:

Seven states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws banning assault weapons, namely, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York.

WHEREAS:

Assault weapons and/or high capacity ammunition magazines have been used in recent mass shootings of innocent civilians, including:

- El Paso, Texas, August 3, 2019, where a shooter killed 22 people in 30 seconds using a WASR-10, a civilian version of an AK-47;
- Dayton, Ohio, August 4, 2019, where a shooter killed 9 people and wounded 7 using an AM-15 semi-automatic with a 100-round drum magazine;
- Parkland, Florida, February 14, 2018, where a shooter killed 17 people and wounded 14 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School using an AR-15 style assault rifle;
- Orlando, Florida, June 12, 2016, where a shooter killed 49 people and wounded 58 at the Pulse Nightclub with an AR-15 style assault rifle; and
- Newtown, Connecticut, December 14, 2012, where a shooter killed 26 people and wounded 2 at Sandy Hook Elementary School with a Bushmaster XM15-E2S rifle with 10 magazines with 30 rounds each.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Jamestown Democratic Town Committee of Jamestown, Rhode Island, has voted to call upon all elected officials at the local, state, and national levels to support an out-right ban on the further sale and use of assault style weapons and high capacity magazines.

WHERETO:

The following bear witness:

Anne M. Livingston          Melody Drnach
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Jamestown Democratic Town Committee co-chairs
Date: September 9, 2019