

..Number

160191

..Version

PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE A

..Reference

160538

..Sponsor

ALD. ZIELINSKI

..Title

Substitute resolution directing the Department of Administration – Intergovernmental Relations Division to seek introduction and passage of legislation increasing penalties for violent crimes.

..Analysis

This resolution directs the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Relations Division to seek introduction and passage of state legislation increasing penalties for violent crimes. These include, but are not be limited to, homicide, non-fatal shootings, sexual assaults, armed robberies, aggravated assaults and possession of firearms by felons. The resolution also requests that consequences for non-violent crimes be considered to focus on offender rehabilitation.

..Body

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee, adjoining suburbs in Milwaukee County and surrounding counties are experiencing a rash of violent crimes including homicides, non-fatal shootings, sexual assaults, aggravated assaults, carjackings and armed robberies; and

Whereas, City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services Special Enforcement Inspector Greg “Ziggy” Zyszkiewicz was murdered during an attempted armed robbery carjacking on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, in the vicinity of N. 23rd Street and W. Cherry Street, while on City business to inspect an area property; and

Whereas, Three suspects have been charged in this incident including the alleged shooter, Deshaun K. Scott, age 17, and his accomplices Qhualun D. Shaw, also age 17, and Eric J. Smiley, Jr., age 21; and

Whereas, Deshaun K. Scott and Eric J. Smiley, Jr., are also charged with committing an armed-robbery carjacking at about 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 22, 2017; and

Whereas, Eric J. Smiley, Jr., is also charged with committing domestic violence battery with injuries to the victim between the morning carjacking and afternoon murder; and

Whereas, All 3 defendants had prior criminal histories, including arrests for strong-armed robbery, assault and battery, possession of a dangerous weapon, car theft, theft from vehicles, resisting or obstructing an officer, misdemeanor and felony bail jumping, and drug dealing and possession; and

Whereas, These 3 incidents and the defendants' criminal histories starkly depict the violent criminal activity Milwaukee residents and visitors are subjected to throughout the city; and

Whereas, Passage of a state law increasing the current maximum sentences for violent crimes may be a stronger crime deterrent and will allow judges to sentence criminals to longer prison terms, thereby improving community safety by keeping violent criminals off the street for a longer period of time; and

Whereas, Non-violent criminals have greater prospects of being rehabilitated to become contributing members of society; and

Whereas, The focus of sanctions against non-violent criminals should be behavior modification, education and training to facilitate their rehabilitation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Relations Division is directed to seek introduction and passage of state legislation increasing the maximum penalties for violent crimes; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Department of Administration - Intergovernmental Relations Division is also directed to seek introduction and passage of state legislation to change non-violent offender sanctions from long-term incarceration to rehabilitation; and, be it

Further Resolved, That Common Council Resolution File Number 160538 is amended by adding the following item in the document attached to the file and identified as the "2017-2018 State Legislative Package Proposals":

Common Council	Public Health and Safety	Seek introduction and passage of legislation to increase the penalties imposed when a serious violent crime is committed.
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; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Clerk is directed to provide copies of this resolution to the Governor and Attorney General of Wisconsin and to all members of the State Legislature who represent constituents in the Milwaukee region.

..Drafter
LRB 164746-11
John Ledvina
4/3/2017