



Legislation Text

File #: 991369, Version: 3

991369
SUBSTITUTE 3

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Substitute resolution relating to the expenditure of \$50,000 from the Handgun Violence Media Campaign special purpose account in the 2000 City Budget for a public education program relating to firearm violence.

- Analysis - This resolution authorizes the expenditure of \$50,000 from a special purpose account in the 2000 City Budget to fund the public education component of Operation Ceasefire, a joint law enforcement initiative aimed at reducing handgun violence. The money will be paid to the Ceasefire Education Fund held by the Safe & Sound program. Safe & Sound has agreed to partner with the agencies responsible for Operation Ceasefire for the purpose of accepting donations for the education effort.

Whereas, Funding in the amount of \$50,000 was allocated in the 2000 City Budget to a special purpose account designated "Handgun Violence Media Campaign"; and

Whereas, In February 1997, the City of Richmond, Virginia, began Project Exile, a joint law enforcement effort under which certain categories of armed criminals are referred for federal rather than state prosecution; and

Whereas, The swifter prosecutions and longer sentences available within the federal criminal system have combined to cause significant reductions in the rates of murder and other violent crimes in the City of Richmond; and

Whereas, Communities across the country, including Buffalo, New York, Oakland, California, and San Francisco, California, have successfully adopted the Project Exile model; and

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee, working with the United States Attorney's Office and a range of other local and federal agencies, plans to begin its own version of Project Exile, called Project Ceasefire, on January 1, 2000; and

Whereas, A key component in the success of any form of Project Exile has been a public education campaign to make community members aware of the program's existence and its penalties through radio and television advertising, billboards or business cards; and

Whereas, The State of Wisconsin has appropriated \$150,000 to fund this education effort; and

Whereas, The Safe & Sound program has agreed to partner with the various agencies responsible for Operation Ceasefire for the purpose of accepting contributions to the public education campaign; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee that the Common Council authorizes and directs the expenditure of \$50,000 from the Handgun Violence Media Campaign special purpose account, 0001-1310-301-S189-006300, for the purpose of funding the community education component of Operation Ceasefire; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the appropriate City officials are authorized and directed to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the Safe & Sound Program for the purpose of accepting City funds for use in the Operation Ceasefire public education program; and, be it

Further Resolved, That Operation Ceasefire shall submit a written report to the Common Council detailing how the \$50,000 was utilized by December 31, 2000.

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