**SAMPLE RESOLUTION**

**Gun Control and Mental Health Services to Protect Our Youth**

WHEREAS, A prerequisite to student growth, learning, well-being and success is a safe and secure school environment; and

WHEREAS, Children throughout the nation have been negatively affected directly and indirectly by violent crimes involving firearms; and

WHEREAS, Military-style assault weapons and large-volume ammunition magazines were used in recent mass killings in schools and other locations; and

WHEREAS, Profiles of school shooters illustrate the need for a thorough examination of the care and treatment of the mentally ill and for effective intervention;

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association’s 2014 study, *What Makes Schools Safe*?, cited reports by state and federal agencies, which found that mental health intervention did not take place prior to three-quarters of school shootings; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has among the strongest gun control laws in the nation and the lowest incidence of gun-related deaths, but protective laws are not in place in many other states or at the federal level; and

WHEREAS, The tragedies of Parkland, Florida, of Newtown, Connecticut, of Columbine High School in Colorado, emphasize the need to address access to firearms and the delivery of mental health services. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Board of Education, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, State of New Jersey, urges President Trump and Congress to identify and implement meaningful action to address access to and ownership of military-style assault weapons and ammunition, the delivery of mental health services, and financial support to ensure a safe and secure school climate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Board of Education supports Governor Murphy’s call to end the “epidemic of gun violence that plagues far too many of our communities” and supports enhancements to state law that will provide protection for our schools and communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to President Trump, U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator Cory Booker, U.S. Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Governor Murphy, State Senator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Assembly Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Assembly Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the New Jersey School Boards Association, and the National School Boards Association.