

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
FRANKLIN SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
OPPOSING PASSAGE OF HB 1407 / SB 1496,
WHICH REVOKES THE AUTHORITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES TO
PROHIBIT THE CARRYING OF HANDGUNS IN PARKS
AND AT RECREATIONAL FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, Public Chapter 428 of the 2009 Public Acts of the 106th General Assembly (“the Act”) amended T.C.A. § 39-17-1311 by removing the prohibition against carrying handguns in public parks; and

WHEREAS, the Act provided that local governments could prohibit, by resolution, the carrying of handguns while within a public park or other recreational area owned or operated by that local government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin Board of Mayor and Alderman and the Williamson County Board of Commissioners did so, prohibiting the carrying of handguns in public parks and recreational areas owned by the City of Franklin and Williamson County at their regular sessions on the 28th day of July, 2009 and the 14th day of June, 2010, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin Special School District Board of Education supports the current state of the law, which allows for local governments to have flexibility and local control over the issue, and provides the opportunity for each local government to address the issue in a manner most appropriate for that community; and

WHEREAS, HB 1407 / SB 1496 revokes the authority of local governments to opt out of the provisions of the 2009 Act, thus removing the authority of the Williamson County Board of Commissioners and City of Franklin Board of Mayor and Alderman to enact such a prohibition on carrying handguns and firearms in public parks; and

WHEREAS, most Franklin Special School District schools use Williamson County and City of Franklin parks for recreational and academic purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin Special School District Board of Education takes the safety of all students, parents, and citizens participating in school events very seriously and regards safety as being of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin Special School District Board of Education believes strongly in and supports the Constitutional rights of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, T.C.A. § 39-17-1309 prohibits the carrying of firearms or other weapons on any property used by a board of education; and

