

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

MOTION NO. _____

DECLARING THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S INTENT TO SEEK AMENDMENTS TO STATE
LAW TO ALLOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO PROHIBIT THE POSSESSION OF
FIREARMS IN ALL GOVERNMENT FACILITIES BY PERSONS WHO DO NOT POSSESS
A CONCEALED WEAPONS PERMIT

WHEREAS, two persons were shot on Saturday, May 23, 2009, at the Seattle Folklife Festival:
and

WHEREAS, following the shooting Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels banned firearms from all city
facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's action was challenged both in federal and state court; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County Code provides for the prohibition of firearms in Snohomish
County parks unless otherwise permitted; and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2010, the Snohomish County Council considered Ordinance 09-143
which would have removed the prohibition on firearms in Snohomish County parks; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 09-143 was not passed because a majority of the Council wished to see
the outcome of the legal challenges to the City of Seattle's prohibition; and

WHEREAS, in March of 2010 the challenge was rejected by the federal court as not being a
violation of the Second Amendment of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2010 the challenge was upheld in state court as violating state law
which preempts firearms regulation by local governments; and

WHEREAS, in passing Ordinance 10-016 the Snohomish County Council is bringing the
Snohomish County Code into compliance with the recent state court ruling; and

WHEREAS, while supporting the right of citizens to possess firearms for self protection, sport,
and other legal purposes, the Snohomish County Council sees serious problems with allowing

unrestricted possession of firearms in county parks, a place where children should be able to play and families gather without feeling threatened; and

WHEREAS, both state and federal law recognize the need to restrict the possession of firearms in certain settings such as schools and courts;

NOW, THEREFORE, ON MOTION, the Snohomish County Council declares its intent to seek amendments to state law that would allow local governments to prohibit the possession of firearms in all government facilities by persons who do not possess a concealed weapons permit a part of its 2011 legislative agenda; and

To send copies of this resolution to all members of the State Legislature who represent citizens of Snohomish County.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2010.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

Council Chair

ATTEST:

Asst. Clerk of the Council