

Resolution for the Regents to Prohibit Firearms on CU Campuses

March 2024

Whereas over 40,000 people in the U.S. have been killed by guns each year since 2020;^{1,2}

Whereas the February 16th shooting has devastated the UCCS community and shed new light on the weapons policy, and many students, faculty and staff feel threatened by the presence of concealed firearms around them;

Whereas SB 21-256 Local Regulation of Firearms, which became Colorado law in 2021, allows for local governments—a category which explicitly includes “the governing board of an institution of higher education”—to create weapons policies that are stricter than the state policies;³ and

Whereas SB 24-131 is currently being debated in the Colorado General Assembly, but its passage is extremely uncertain; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Faculty Representative Assembly of the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs:

1. Recognize gun violence as a public health emergency that requires immediate response through sensible gun policies;
2. Affirm that the UCCS Faculty Representative Assembly is not content with the current weapons policy and that campuses require special consideration as sensitive spaces where people live, work, and study;
3. Demand that the CU Regents exercise the power granted to them by SB 21-256 to enact stricter weapons policy; and
4. Demand that the CU Board of Regents take immediate action to change the CU weapons policy (14.I) to prohibit concealed carry of firearms on all CU campuses instead of leaving the safety of our campuses to state legislators and passively awaiting the outcome of SB 24-131.

¹ “Gun Deaths Dropped Slightly in 2022—But Were Still High,” *The Trace*, accessed March 15, 2024, <https://www.thetrace.org/2023/07/gun-deaths-cdc-data-suicide-homicide/>.

² “More than 40,000 people killed in gun violence so far in 2023,” *ABC News*, accessed March 15, 2024, <https://abcnews.go.com/US/116-people-died-gun-violence-day-us-year/story?id=97382759>.

³ Local Regulation of Firearms, Colorado SB 21-256 § 5 (c).

