

The mayors and police chiefs of 21 cities in the East Bay are backing the ordinance, hoping to send a signal to legislators.

"Maybe it won't stop smuggling or crime," Mayor Ralph Appezato said. "Symbolic? Maybe, maybe not. But we've got to try."

Alameda was among seven cities along the I-880 corridor to approve or at least study the junk gun ordinance ban in the first reading of the law this week.

Oakland and Berkeley have given the ban approval on a second reading, which is required for final passage.

REGION TAKES THE LEAD TO CORRAL 'JUNK GUNS'

The new push by Bay Area civic leader's to take "junk guns" out of circulation probably won't take the weapons off the streets altogether. But it is likely to have some success. And it stands as a powerful statement by those who lead our local governments: We've had enough, and we're going to work together, as a region, to solve this problem.

"We are standing together, and sending a message that no matter where you live, in what city or county, violence is there and we need to do something about it," said Berkeley Mayor Shidey Dean, chairwoman of the East Bay Public Safety Corridor Partnership.

The partnership, the largest regional approach to fighting junk guns in the nation, encompasses Fremont, Newark, Union City, Hayward, San Leandro, Alameda, Berkeley, Oakland, Piedmont, Albany, Emeryville, El Cerrito, Richmond, San Pablo and Pinole. Dean wants other cities to join.

San Francisco and Alameda County have already outlawed the weapons, and San Jose is considering a ban.

The regional approach is being taken up by Bay Area politicians who have given up on the federal and state governments. "Politicians on the state and federal level, quite frankly, are afraid of the gun lobby," said Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris.

Junk guns, also known as Saturday night specials, are, generally speaking, poorly constructed and therefore less safe. They also are less expensive to buy. More technical definitions will be refined by those who write the local ordinances banning them. Suffice it to say, junk guns are easy to get and dangerous to use. They are used by gangs and considered status symbols.

BAY AREA HOMICIDES

People are dropping like flies in the Bay Area because of the availability of guns. Between 1991 and 1993, six out of every eight homicides in Alameda County involved a firearm, according to the Alameda County Injury Prevention program. Homicide rates were highest for those between 20 and 24.

If this push is going to succeed, other cities are going to have to climb on board. Several are considering gun bans. We urge them to follow through.

At least one East Bay civic leader, Dublin Mayor Guy Houston, wants no part of the regional gun ban. Using rhetoric that sounds as though it were written for him by the National Rifle Association, Houston eschews a ban on murderous weapons and says tougher penalties are the solution to the gun problem. The "Three Strikes, You're Out" law is taking care of the problem, Houston says.

Tougher penalties are fine, but by themselves they have not done the job. More is needed. At least Houston didn't utter the old NRA line, "Guns don't kill people; people kill people." That's true; people do kill people—with guns. Fewer guns, fewer deaths. ●

AUTHORIZING SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL REPRESENTATION

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, on behalf of the Democratic leader, I send to the

desk a resolution to authorize representation by the Senate counsel, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 281) to authorize representation by Senate legal counsel.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, the plaintiff in Lockhart versus United States brought a civil action in May 1996 in Federal District Court in the Western District of Washington. The suit is against the United States and a number of legislative, executive, and judicial branch officials, including Senator LOTT and then-Senator Dole, as well as various members of President Clinton's Cabinet. The plaintiff seeks damages for a variety of injuries that he alleges the defendants inflicted upon him. The complaint's only connection with the majority leader and former Senator Dole consists of vague references to statutes that Congress has passed or repealed.

The complaint fails to establish any legitimate grievance with Senator LOTT or Senator Dole. This resolution authorizes the Senate Legal Counsel to represent these Members in this action.

Mr. DODD. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 281) was considered and agreed to as follows:

S. RES. 281

Whereas, in the case of *James Lockhart v. United States, et al.*, No. C95-1858Z, pending in the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington, the plaintiff has named Senator Trent Lott and former Senator Robert J. Dole as defendants;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.S.C. §§288b(a) and 288c(a) (1) (1994), the Senate may direct its counsel to defend its Members in civil actions relating to their official responsibilities; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Lott and former Senator Dole in the case of *James Lockhart v. United States, et al.*

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1995

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of calendar No. 149, S. 919.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 919) to modify and reauthorize the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, with an amendment to strike out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu therefore the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1995".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROGRAM

Sec. 101. Reference.

Sec. 102. Findings.

Sec. 103. Office of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Sec. 104. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Sec. 105. Repeal of Interagency Task Force.

Sec. 106. National Clearinghouse for Information Relating to Child Abuse.

Sec. 107. Research and assistance activities.

Sec. 108. Grants for demonstration programs.

Sec. 109. State grants for prevention and treatment programs.

Sec. 110. Repeal.

Sec. 111. Miscellaneous requirements.

Sec. 112. Definitions.

Sec. 113. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 114. Rule of construction.

Sec. 115. Technical amendment.

TITLE II—COMMUNITY-BASED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION GRANTS

Sec. 201. Establishment of program.

Sec. 202. Repeals.

TITLE III—FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES

Sec. 301. Reference.

Sec. 302. State demonstration grants.

Sec. 303. Allotments.

Sec. 304. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE IV—ADOPTION OPPORTUNITIES

Sec. 401. Reference.

Sec. 402. Findings and purpose.

Sec. 403. Information and services.

Sec. 404. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE V—ABANDONED INFANTS ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1986

Sec. 501. Reauthorization.

TITLE VI—REAUTHORIZATION OF VARIOUS PROGRAMS

Sec. 601. Missing Children's Assistance Act.

Sec. 602. Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

TITLE I—GENERAL PROGRAM

SEC. 101. REFERENCE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.).

SEC. 102. FINDINGS.

Section 2 (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), the read as follows:

"(1) each year, close to 1,000,000 American children are victims of abuse and neglect;"

(2) in paragraph (3)(C), by inserting "assessment," after "prevention,";

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking "tens of"; and

(B) by striking "direct" and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting "tangible