

SR0352

LRB098 12357 RLC 46676 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 2012 the City of Chicago experienced over 500
3 homicides, 87% of which were gun related; and

WHEREAS, Recent news articles have highlighted that many of those prosecuted for firearms offenses in the City of Chicago and Cook County are receiving minimal or inconsistent punishment under Illinois law; and

8 WHEREAS, Under federal law a convicted felon in possession 9 of a firearm or ammunition is eligible for a sentence of up to 10 10 years in federal prison; and

11 WHEREAS, Increasing the number of federal prosecutions for 12 firearms offenses will help keep violent and repeat offenders 13 off the street longer; and

14 WHEREAS, Increasing the number of federal prosecutions for 15 firearms offenses will free up local criminal justice resources 16 for other criminal prosecutions; and

WHEREAS, Increasing the number of federal prosecutions for firearms offenses is an effective way to fight violence in the community; therefore, be it SR0352 -2- LRB098 12357 RLC 46676 r 1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL 2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that a comprehensive State 3 and federal approach is necessary to curb firearms violence and 4 ensure that our communities are safe from increasing gang 5 violence; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we urge the President of the United States, 7 the Attorney General of the United States, the Mayor of 8 Chicago, the Chicago Police Superintendent, the Cook County 9 Sheriff, and the Cook County State's Attorney to work together 10 so that all firearms offenses that are eligible for federal 11 prosecution be referred to the federal government for 12 prosecution under existing federal law.