

Safe Suburbs USA PAC

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September 17, 2022

Via E-Mail

Hon. Mayor James Langfelder

Re: SAFE T Resolution

Dear Mayor Langfelder:

I am writing on behalf of Safe Suburbs USA PAC. We are a political action committee committed to supporting pro-law enforcement candidates for public office and to advocating for public policies that further public safety. Our growing PAC now has over 7,000 Facebook followers and has been hosting very well attended events around the Chicago suburbs. Our events are focused on matters of public safety and celebrate the contributions of law enforcement to our communities.


One of the issues of great concern to our PAC is HB 3653, better known as the SAFE T Act. This terrible law will eliminate cash bail effective at the beginning of 2023 and will lead to the release of thousands of arrestees (many of whom have been charged with very violent crimes). The SAFE T Act will require significant and radical changes to arrest procedures and will make many offenses (including many violent offenses) non-detainable until conviction. This law constitutes an enormous unfunded mandate that will cost communities millions in order to comply with. This law is pro-criminal and anti-police, anti-taxpayer, and anti-public safety.

For some time, we have encouraged Naperville elected officials to pass a resolution that asks Springfield to immediately address the numerous shortcomings within the SAFE T Act. Through the passage of this resolution, the Naperville community was made aware of the risks tied to this bill. It gained press attention that we hope will further encourage legislators in Springfield to take action to address the shortcomings with this bill. We ask that your community pass a similar resolution.

Please join the Illinois FOP and the 100 out of Illinois 102 States Attorneys that have denounced the SAFE T Act and speak out against this terrible law. Please add to your next agenda a resolution to publicly oppose the SAFE T Act as it is currently drawn. For your convenience we have attached a copy of the Naperville resolution recently passed.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions. You can contact me by e-mail at contact@safesuburbsusa.com. We also encourage you to consider liking our Facebook Page Safe Suburbs USA and check out our website www.safesuburbsusa.com. Your attention and consideration of our request as outlined herein is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Kevin Coyne

CC: Springfield Aldermen (via e-mail)

RESOLUTION NO. 22 – 23

**A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING CONTINUED EFFORTS TO RESOLVE PUBLIC SAFETY
CONCERNS WITH THE SAFE-T ACT**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPERVILLE, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, in exercise of its home rule authority as follows:

WHEREAS, the City's mission is to provide services that ensure a high quality of life, sound fiscal management, and a dynamic business environment, while creating an inclusive community that values diversity; and

WHEREAS, providing a safe and secure community for all Naperville residents and businesses is a focus of the City's priority plan; and

WHEREAS, the Naperville Police Department has been a leader in police training, policy and practice, accountability and transparency; and

WHEREAS, the City values public engagement and stakeholder involvement to ensure all perspectives are considered in the development of legislation; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2021, the Illinois Safety, Fairness and Equity-Today Act ("SAFE-T Act") was signed into law, which imposes significant changes impacting many aspects of the criminal justice system, including pre-arrest diversion, policing, pretrial, sentencing, and corrections; and

WHEREAS, the City worked with the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police to share public safety concerns about the Safe-T Act after its initial release, and during consideration of subsequent trailer bills; and

WHEREAS, the City supports certain elements of the Safe-T Act and has already implemented elements including police body cameras and use of force training; and

WHEREAS, the Safe-T Act, contains several elements that impact the ability for the City to most effectively provide police services, including, but not limited to unreasonably limiting the imposition of cash bail for violent offenders, unreasonably limiting police officer discretion to make arrests, imposing unreasonable police certification and decertification standards, and mandating unreasonable custodial accommodations; and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity for legislators to continue to work with public safety representatives and all community stakeholders to further amend the Safe-T Act to address outstanding public safety concerns.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPERVILLE, DUPAGE AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, in exercise of its home rule authority, as follows:

SECTION 1: The City of Naperville encourages legislators to work with public safety representatives and all community stakeholders to fix remaining problems with the SAFE-T Act; including, but not limited to, unreasonably limiting the imposition of cash bail for violent offenders, unreasonably limiting police officer discretion to make arrests, imposing unreasonable police certification and decertification standards, and mandating unreasonable custodial accommodations.

SECTION 2: This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

ADOPTED this 16th day of August 2022.

AYES: CHIRICO, GUSTIN, HINTERLONG, LEONG; TAYLOR

NAYS: HOLZHAUER, KELLY, WHITE

ABSTAIN: SULLIVAN

APPROVED this 17th day of August 2022.



Steve Chirico
Mayor

ATTEST



Grace Michalak
Records Clerk

