

NHMS Policy Position

Firearm Safety - Advocating for Schools as Gun-Free Zones

Whereas, the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 essentially prohibits pupils bringing or possessing firearms in K-12 school zones, but there are currently no limitations in New Hampshire for other individuals bringing or possessing guns in school zones, and

Whereas, there have been so many mass shootings in schools (Sandy Hook, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Columbine and many others), and

Whereas, schools should be a safe haven from firearm violence, and

Whereas, Federal and state laws ensuring that schools are gun-free zones have helped make K-12 schools even safer, significantly reducing gun violence in these places (*Giffords Law Center*), and

Whereas, the AMA in June 2018 adopted a policy advocating for schools to remain gun-free zones, with the exception of school-sanctioned activities and professional law enforcement officials, and also opposing requirements or incentives for teachers to carry weapons in schools.

Resolved, that NHMS advocates for schools to be gun-free zones, with the exception of school-sanctioned firearm activities and professional law enforcement officials, and also opposes requirements or incentives for teachers to carry weapons in schools.

Adopted by NHMS Council on April 14, 2021