

RESOLUTION NO. 3434-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WINDSOR
SUPPORTING THE REDUCING CRIME AND KEEPING
CALIFORNIA SAFE ACT OF 2018**

WHEREAS, protecting every person in our state, including our most vulnerable children, from violent crime is of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, since 2014, California has had a larger increase in violent crime than the rest of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the FBI Preliminary Semiannual Uniform Crime Report for 2017, which tracks crimes committed during the first six months of the past year in U.S. cities with populations over 100,000, indicates that last year violent crime increased again in most of California's largest cities; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to parole laws allowed the early release of dangerous criminals by the law's failure to define certain crimes as "violent"; and

WHEREAS, as a result, these so-called "non-violent" offenders are eligible for early release from prison after serving only a fraction of the sentence ordered by a judge; and

WHEREAS, violent offenders are also being allowed to remain free in our communities even when they commit new crimes and violate the terms of their post release community supervision; and

WHEREAS, this measure reforms the law so felons who violate the terms of their release can be brought back to court and held accountable for such violations; and

WHEREAS, nothing in this act is intended to create additional "strike" offenses which would increase the state prison population, nor is it intended to affect the ability of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to award educational and merit credits; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to California law allow individuals who steal repeatedly to face few consequences, regardless of their criminal record or how many times they steal; and

WHEREAS, as a result, between 2014 and 2016, California had the second highest increase in theft and property crimes in the United States, while most states have seen a steady decline; and

WHEREAS, grocery store operators around the state have seen unprecedented increases in the amount of losses associated with shoplifting in their stores, with some reporting up to 150 percent increases in their losses from 2012 to present, with the largest jumps occurring since 2014; and

WHEREAS, shoplifting incidents have started to escalate in such a manner that have endangered innocent customers and employees; and

WHEREAS, individuals who repeatedly steal often do so to support their drug habit. Recent changes to California law have reduced judges' ability to order individuals convicted of repeated theft crimes into effective drug treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, California needs stronger laws for those who are repeatedly convicted of theft related crimes, which will encourage those who repeatedly steal to support their drug problem to enter into existing drug treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, collecting DNA from criminals is essential to solving violent crimes; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to California law unintentionally eliminated DNA collection for theft and drug crimes. This measure restores DNA collection from persons convicted for such offenses that will help identify suspects, clear the innocent, and free the wrongly convicted; and

WHEREAS, this measure does not affect existing legal safeguards that protect the privacy of individuals by allowing for the removal of their DNA profile if they are not charged with a crime, are acquitted or are found innocent.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Windsor does hereby support the Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of March 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS FUDGE, MILLAN, SALMON, VICE MAYOR FOPPOLI AND MAYOR OKREPKIE
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE



BRUCE OKREPKIE, MAYOR

ATTEST:



MARIA DE LA O, TOWN CLERK