



Allegheny County Sportsmen's League Inc.

Organized in 1921 Incorporated in 1933

*Fighting for Liberty, Conservation, Wildlife, and our Natural Resources
for more than 100 Years*

P.O. Box 205, Presto, PA 15142

www.acslpa.org

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Honorable Representatives,

I am writing you regarding the recent bombardment of gun control bills in the Pennsylvania House:

[HB 1018 Extreme Risk Protection Orders](#)

[HB 714 Universal Background Checks](#)

[HB 731 Mandatory Storage](#)

[HB 338 Mandatory Reporting of Lost or Stolen Firearms](#)

Each of these pieces of legislation do nothing to curb criminal violence and must be OPPOSED.

These bills restrict citizens by imposing even more governmental interference in the lives of law-abiding gun owners. Some of the proposed bills overtly impede Pennsylvanian's ability to exercise MULTIPLE Constitutional Rights.

These proposed gun control bills mimic laws from other states that have proven to have no substantive effect upon criminal activities. If they did, California would be the safest State in the Union.

Placing additional restrictions on law abiding gun owners helps to empower the criminal elements that seek to prey upon our fellow Pennsylvanians. Some of these bills would criminalize the law abiding for acts that they did not commit, which hardly seems fair, just, or equitable.

Gun Confiscation Orders (HB1018) eliminate the foundational American ethos of "innocent until proven guilty". These so called ERPO's also establish an infrastructure that could be easily abused by jiltedex-spouses, angry family members, or police acting on a hunch. Imagine if someone could anonymously report you as a "risk" and without notice, due process, and maybe even without a warrant, law enforcement could come to your door to confiscate your property. If you were to survive the potential chaos of a midnight raid upon your home, it would then be YOUR burden to prove your own innocence.

If you believe in fair and equitable justice, you must oppose HB1018.

If you would like to read more about the folly and risk of these Gun Confiscation Orders (HB1018), use the link provided to read a white paper on the subject from FOAC-ILLEA (a member organization of the ACSL).

<https://foac-illea.org/uploads/ILLEA-Talking-Points/ERPO%20White%20Paper.pdf>

Universal Background Checks (HB714) are a “feel-good measure” that does nothing to curb criminal violence and only imposes more restrictions upon the law abiding. In PA we have a background check system known as the Pennsylvania Instant Check System. ALL long guns and handguns purchased through an FFL (a licensed firearm dealer) and ALL person-to-person handgun purchases must go through the PICs system. This bill would eliminate the private transfer of long guns by requiring ALL long gun sales to go through an FFL and a background check.

[The FBI Uniform Crime Report states that in Pennsylvania](#), the vast majority of violent crimes committed with firearms are with handguns. Therefore, if background checks had the efficacy that supporters of this legislation suggest that they do, we would have no crimes committed in PA with handguns. Because mandatory background checks for ALL legal handgun purchases are already in place, (the key phrase here is “legal”). This legislation does not curb the acts of criminals; all it does is restrict the law abiding.

What universal background checks DO is eliminate the ability to privately transfer a long gun, create a de facto database of ALL gun owners, and make it harder for Pennsylvanians to exercise their Constitutional Rights. We urge you to oppose HB714.

IF you would like to read more about the folly and risk of Universal Background Checks (HB714), use the link provided to read a white paper from FOAC-ILLEA (a member organization of the ACSL).

<https://foac-illea.org/uploads/ILLEA-Talking-Points/UBC%20White%20Paper%20R4.pdf>

Imagine if you would, someone breaks into your home, steals your property while you are on vacation and after you discover that your belongings are gone, you are held criminally liable for their theft. This is essentially what **Mandatory Reporting (HB338)** does. It holds the law-abiding gun owner liable for the acts of a criminal. If you fail to report the loss or theft of your property within 72 hours, you are a criminal. This bill does NOTHING to stop the original theft! This hardly seems fair, just, equitable or even practical. We strongly recommend that you OPPOSE HB338.

Mandatory Storage (HB731) would, among other things, require individuals to store firearms one of 3 specific ways in their homes. When government dictates how people approach their individual lifestyle choices inside their homes, individual liberty is infringed. Also, this bill, if it were to become law, would be laughingly unenforceable.

In the [memorandum](#) written by [Representative Parker](#), she promotes a skewed false narrative that guns are the main cause of death for children. First, Rep. Parker doesn't cite where her data comes from. Secondly, she fails to recognize that most “child” deaths regarding firearms are in the context of criminal gang violence. Likely she (like so many gun control advocates) is using questionable CDC statistics that include eighteen- and nineteen-year old adults as “children”. In fact, according to the CDC, automobiles account for many more child fatalities, yet Rep. Parker is not calling for mandatory locking devices on vehicles or requiring that you park your car or truck a specific way. If it were truly about saving lives, why isn't Rep Parker looking into threats that are more likely?

Unlike Representative Parker, I will cite my data source:

<https://crimeresearch.org/2022/04/motor-vehicle-v-firearm-deaths-2015-much-left-wing-predictions/>

Perhaps HB731 is more about restricting law abiding gun owners, than it is about saving lives. We recommend that you OPPOSE HB731.

[There are over 13 million people in Pennsylvania. In 2021, CBS News published that 40.7% of Pennsylvania adults had firearms in their homes. The PA Game Commission reports that over 800,000 hunting licenses were sold in 2021.](#) These licensees are likely gun owners. [The PA State Police reports that there are over 1.5 million licenses to carry issued in Pennsylvania.](#) There is certainly no shortage of legally owned firearms in Pennsylvania.

Law abiding gun owners are not the problem.

Legislators should create legislation that would hold DA's, Prosecutors, and local government officials responsible for prosecuting and punishing criminals with the existing laws, instead of creating more laws to restrict law abiding gun owners.

100% of all violent crimes are committed by violent criminals. Criminals ARE the problem.

How many local prosecutors are failing the public by choosing to NOT enforce the laws we have and by permitting criminals to run rampant in our streets and towns?

When government lets violent criminals run amuck, government aids the criminals. When government holds law abiding gun owners accountable for the actions of criminals, government empowers the criminals. It is time government stops helping the criminals. It is time government stops treating law abiding gun owners as second-class citizens.

With these types of issues, you are either FOR empowering the people to freely exercise their rights, or you are FOR limiting and restricting them.

We strongly urge you to OPPOSE HB 1018, HB 714, HB 731, and HB 338.

I respectfully request that you [reply in writing via email](#) as to your position on these pieces of legislation so that we can educate gun owners across the Commonwealth as to where you personally stand regarding THEIR individual rights and liberties.

If you require more information, or would like to discuss these issues, feel free to contact me at kmacro@acslpa.org.

Yours Most Respectfully,



Klint Macro
President of The Allegheny County Sportsmen's League