

Fact Sheet



Colorado Faith Communities
United to End Gun Violence

SB23 168/169/170
HB23-1219

For more information, please contact

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Colorado Gun Violence Prevention Legislation | Signed April 28, 2023

SB23-168 | Immunity Repeal

Sponsors: Sens. Sonya Jaquez Lewis and Chris Kolker, Reps. Javier Mabrey and Jennifer Parenti

Repeals Colorado's severe gun industry immunity law protecting gun manufacturers, dealers, and distributors.

- Currently, individuals who sue over egregious actions are held liable for the defendant's legal costs.
- Santa Fe High School (Texas 2018; 10 fatally shot) shooting might have been prevented if Lucky Gunner (an online dealer) had been stopped by the Phillips' Aurora Theater lawsuit.
- There is still a federal PLCAA law (Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms), but it is less onerous than Colorado's current law.

SB23-169 | Minimum Age for Firearm Purchase

Sponsors: Sens. Kyle Mullica and Jessie Danielson, Reps. Monica Duran and Eliza Hamrick

Establishes a minimum age of 21 for purchase of both handguns and long guns (rifles and shotguns).

- Current federal regulations: age 21 for handgun; 18 for long gun.
- Six of nine worst mass shootings (2018 to 2022) were by persons 21 years old and younger.
- 18- to 20-year-olds comprise four percent of population, but 17 percent of homicide offenders.¹
- States that raised the legal age experienced a nine percent decline in suicides for 18- to 20-year-olds, and a decrease in unintentional deaths.²

SB23-170 | Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs, aka Red Flag Law)

Sponsors: Sens. Tom Sullivan and Stephen Fenberg, Reps. Jennifer Bacon and Mike Weissman

Expands the list of petitioners to include Colorado's attorney general, district attorneys, educators, health care and mental health care professionals.

- Family members, law enforcement and the newly added petitioners may petition the court to remove access to firearms for a person who is dangerous to oneself or others.
- Nineteen other states and the District of Columbia also have ERPO laws.

HB23-1219 | Waiting Periods

Sponsors: Reps. Meg Froelich and Judy Amabile, Sens. Tom Sullivan and Chris Hansen

Establishes a three-day waiting period between the time a background check begins and the time of completion of the purchase or transfer.

- Nine states have waiting periods from three to 10 days.
- Cooling off period reduces handgun homicides by 17 percent and gun suicides by six percent.³
- Seventy-five percent of Americans support a waiting period for all guns.⁴

Sources | Developed by Colorado Ceasefire and CFCU

1. Giffords: Data from FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports.
2. Webster et al., "Association between youth focused firearm laws and youth suicide," *JAMA* (295)5 594-601.
3. Luca et al., "Handgun waiting periods reduce gun deaths," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, V. 114 No. 46 (Fall 2017).
4. *Quinnipiac University Poll*, 2/20/18.