



AB 28 (Gabriel): The Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Act

Bottom Line: As California communities continue to be torn apart by the devastating impacts of gun violence, we need to ensure that effective programs working to prevent violence and heal victims and survivors can continue their life-saving work from year to year. AB 28 creates the transformative Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Fund which will support programs addressing different facets of gun violence and promote equal access to safety for all Californians.

- Gun violence takes many forms, and requires a holistic set of policy solutions. AB 28 will provide urgently needed, reliable, annual funding for vital programs, including:**
 - **\$75 million to the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) grant program** administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections. The CalVIP grant program funds cities and community-based organizations providing life-saving violence intervention and prevention services to the communities hardest-hit by gun violence.
 - **\$50 million to the Department of Education to fund school mental health**, behavioral services, and school safety measures.
 - **\$15 million to the Judicial Council to ensure safe removal of illegal firearms** from people who are not allowed to have them due to domestic violence restraining orders, gun violence restraining orders, and other proceedings which require guns to be relinquished.
 - **\$15 million to the Department of Justice for a Justice for Victims of Gun Violence grant program** to equitably improve investigations and clearance rates in firearm homicide and assault cases in communities disproportionately impacted by gun violence.
 - **\$2.5 million to Department of Justice programs educating firearm owners** about gun safety laws, including secure firearm storage, and coordination of gun violence prevention efforts across local governments, law enforcement, and community organizations.
 - **\$2.5 million to the Office of Emergency Services to provide counseling and trauma-informed support services to victims of mass shootings** and people who have experienced chronic exposure to community gun violence.
 - **\$1 million, total across all years, for gun violence research** and initiatives to educate healthcare providers about tools for preventing firearm suicide and injury.
- As survivors, families, communities, and taxpayers, we all pay the enormous costs associated with gun violence, whether we own a firearm or not. The gun industry continues to reap historic profits while its products fuel a costly public health epidemic.**
 - Instead of firearm-related profits solely benefitting the gun industry, this bill would impose a modest 11% excise tax, similar to the long-standing federal Pittman-Robertson tax, on gun sellers and manufacturers to fund programs remediating and mitigating the harms their firearm products too often cause in California communities. The tax would apply to gross receipts from their retail sales on firearms, firearm precursor parts, and ammunition.
- AB 28 does not impose direct taxes on consumers and contains reasonable exemptions** for small businesses with less than \$5,000 in applicable quarterly gross receipts. AB 28 also exempts sales made to law enforcement agencies and active or retired peace officers.