

Support Extreme Risk Protection Orders

The gun violence epidemic facing our country is a public health crisis that can be avoided – but only if Congress takes action. In many cases of gun violence, there are warning signs that shooters are at risk of harming themselves or others. But these warning signs aren't always heeded; Even though family members of the shooter in Parkland, Florida had contacted law enforcement, there was no clear process to restrict the individual's access to guns.

Extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs) allow families, household members, and/or law enforcement to petition courts to restrict an individual's access to guns, while creating a process for appeals. In short, ERPOs are a crucial policy that help remove guns from people who are a threat to themselves or others.

Congress should provide federal funding to support state, tribal, and local efforts to educate, train, and provide guidance on how to effectively implement this policy.

- » In the state of Connecticut from 1999-2013, for every estimated 10-20 extreme risk protection orders issued, at least one suicide was prevented.
- » Fraudulent ERPOs are rarely filed. Police found firearms in 99% of instances when an order was issued, removing an average of seven guns per order.
- » 15 states and the District of Columbia have either passed or enacted an extreme risk law at the state level.
- » Federal funding for members of law enforcement is critical, as they're often on the front lines of enforcing and implementing ERPOs.

Support extreme risk protection orders.

Contact:
Amelia Kegan
Legislative Director,
Domestic Policy
amelia@fcnl.org