

MA GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACTION ALERT

The **Decker bill H3610** is in the MA Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. This is a critical piece of legislation backed by The MA Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, the Gifford Foundation, and the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence.

The Decker Bill establishes ERPO - "Extreme Risk Protection Order" in MA, which would enable courts to temporarily prohibit a person from possessing or purchasing guns if law enforcement or immediate family members show that she/he poses a significant danger to him/herself or to others. This bill has been extended to April 15. Another important bill involving ERPO, the **Linsky Bill, H3081**, nearly identical to the Decker bill but with slight variation, has been sent to study.

If Florida had an ERPO law, the Parkland tragedy could have been prevented -- **this is not a criminal law, it is a protection order that allows police to ensure public safety.** There had been complaints and concerns registered with police about the FL shooter that would have triggered the filing of an ERPO, and confiscation of weapons. Massachusetts does have an assault weapons ban, but we do not have an ERPO law.

PLEASE TAKE 5-10 MINUTES NOW! MAKE CALLS TO MA LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT H3610 & H3081.

1) CALL YOUR STATE REP: For MV it's Dylan Fernandes (617-722-2430), who is a co-sponsor on this bill.

"I want to register my support for the Decker Bill, H3610, and the Linsky Bill H3081, which would establish Extreme Risk Protection Orders to prevent gun violence, thank you for your efforts and please continue to advocate for these important pieces of legislation. I understand the Linsky bill is already in study, but I hope the legislature will pass one of these bills to establish an ERPO law in Massachusetts."

For other MA state rep, locate your legislator: <https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator>

"Hello, I am calling to register my support for the Decker Bill, H3610, and the Linsky Bill H3081, which would establish Extreme Risk Protection Orders to prevent gun violence in Massachusetts. Can you tell me if my representative is supporting this bill?"

IF YES: "Please thank the representative for their efforts, and please continue to advocate for H3610 and H3081. I am aware that H3081 is in study, but I hope one of these bills will be put forward for a vote and passed."

IF NO: "That is very disappointing, please let the representative know I urge him/her to reconsider his/her position. I will be voting in the next election cycle and will not vote for someone who does not support common sense gun laws which support public safety, like H3610 and H3081."

IF UNDECIDED: "Please let the representative know I am strongly urging him/her to support this legislation. Establishing an ERPO law is vitally important to the safety of our communities, and is a common-sense gun safety law. I hope he/she will support H3610 and H3081. I am aware that H3081 is in study, but I hope one of these bills will be put forward for a vote and passed." **Make a note to call back and ask the same question next week:** "Has my rep decided his/her position on H3610 and H3081? I am concerned and looking for an update please."

2) CALL THE CHAIRS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY:

REP. HAROLD NAUGHTON, CHAIR (617-722-2230), SEN. MICHAEL MOORE, CHAIR (617-722-1485)

"I would like to register my support with the joint committee chair's staff for the Decker Bill H3610, and the Linsky Bill H3081, which would establish Extreme Risk Protection Orders to prevent gun violence. Especially in light of the Parkland shooting, I would like to see this legislation be reported out of committee favorably. I understand the Linsky bill is already in study, but I hope one of these ERPO bills will be put forward for a vote and passed."

3) CALL HOUSE SPEAKER ROBERT DE LEO (617-722-2500) "I would like to register my support with Speaker DeLeo for the Decker Bill H3610, and the Linsky Bill H3081 which would establish Extreme Risk Protection Orders to prevent gun violence. Especially in light of the Parkland shooting, I would ask the Speaker to assist moving this legislation favorably out of committee, and that he help continue supporting it as it moves through the legislature. I understand the Linsky bill is already in study, but I hope the legislature will pass one of these bills to establish an ERPO law in Massachusetts."

Thank you, and please pass the word on H3610 and H3081!