

## *The Arizona Legislative Alert* [UUJAZ](#) / [VUU](#)

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# **Guns Guns Guns Guns**

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*Prepared by Anne L. Schneider, PH.D. All opinions are those of the author.*

**August 13, 2019**

There surely are dozens (maybe hundreds) of proposals for reducing deaths from gun violence in the U.S. If you are looking for outstanding information on deaths from gun violence and the detailed information on various proposals, then check out the Gifford Law Center at this link: <https://lawcenter.giffords.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Giffords-Law-Center-Facts-about-Gun-Violence.pdf>

This AZ Legislative Alert will focus on the EFFECTIVENESS and ACCEPTABILITY of various gun control laws. The idea here is simply a pragmatic one: Perhaps if advocates of gun safety sort through the multitude of possibilities and focus attention on those the research has established would be most effective, and then check the public opinion polls to assess the acceptability, maybe we can make some progress.

So, Table 1 has been compiled showing the effectiveness of a range of actual gun laws. These data come mainly from as Boston University comprehensive research on the effectiveness of specific gun laws, permitting comparisons of the effectiveness of each law compared to the others.

[https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2955&context=faculty\\_scholarship](https://scholarship.law.columbia.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2955&context=faculty_scholarship)

These data were supplemented with studies reported in the Gifford Law Center. Most of the public opinion information is from the Pew Research Study on public support for various gun control proposals and some from other studies. The specific gun laws chosen are those in the Boston University study, which were selected because they actually exist in enough states to conduct the research. A few other gun proposals were added to the Boston University list.

Then, there's a section on ARIZONA – and some preliminary ideas on what AZ needs to do, since we have an “F” rating on gun control – being one of the most lax in the country.

(Corrections? Please send to [legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org](mailto:legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org) Thanks! )

### **Effectiveness and Acceptability of Gun Control Proposals**

#### **Highlights:**

- Three laws – all of which have high public approval ratings by Democrats and Republicans could cut deaths from gun violence from an approximately 10.35 per 100,000 to less than 1 per 100,000, according to a study published in the Lancet. . These are:
  1. Firearm identification (ballistic fingerprinting; microstamping)
  2. Ammunition background checks (on all ammunition purchases)
  3. Universal background checks (for all guns)
- Several other laws would further reduce gun deaths including: licensing gun dealers; dealers required to keep records; gun store security guards; waiting period for gun purchase; owners must report stolen/lost guns, have to undergo training, and the police have to okay gun permits or licenses.
- Assault weapon bans are popular among Democrats and about half Republicans support, but research is mixed on effectiveness because of ease to substitute and get large magazines, bump stocks, and other accessories. Also, there are already so many available that bans on new ones, alone, has not shown reductions in deaths.
- Extreme risk protective orders (ERPOs) have saved lives in a couple of states where they were implemented – Connecticut and Indiana. Public support is at 80%.
- Red flag laws have no research yet, but probably would work about the same way that the ERPO orders do.

<b>Gun Control Law</b>	<b>Reduction In Deaths Per 100,000 From 10.35<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Public Opinion Acceptability of Gun Control Proposals Approvals<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Best 3 Bills</b>			
Firearm registration / identification (ballistic fingerprinting or microstamping)	-9.68	58% Rep; 91% Dem; 85% all	Every gun is identified and registered (ballistic or microstamping)
Ammunition background check	-9.42	80% (Gifford Law Center)	Ammunition purchases subject to same

<sup>1</sup> Kaleson, Bindu et al. TheLancet (Vol. 387, April 30, 2016). Most is from a single research study, to provide consistency; when the Lancet study did not cover effectiveness, other sources were sought. Check out the Gifford Law Center, especially.

<sup>2</sup> Most are from Pew Research Gun Control Survey, Sept., Oct., 2018 and also from Gifford Law Center. Just google name of law and “public opinion.”

			background checks as guns
Universal background checks	-7.20	79% Rep; 91% Dem; 85% all	All gun sales require background checks (including private transactions)
All 3, reduce deaths from gun violence from 10.35 to..	.16	Gun Laws should be stricter: 28% Rep; 80% Dem; 52% all	
<b>Additional Reduction in Deaths per 100,000 if first three laws are passed at federal level</b>	<b>Some Additional Reductions (from 10.35)</b>		
Gun dealer licensing by state	-.91	Gifford's Law Center reports 80-90% public support for a variety of state-level gun dealer licensing laws, record keeping, security	State requires license of ALL those who sell guns
Dealer record keeping/retention; all guns have to be registered	-2.37		All guns registered at point of sale
Gun store security	-1.77		Security guard
Owner theft reporting stolen/lost gun	-5.12	No data	Owners have to have report stolen guns
Required safety training	-4.17	84% approve <sup>3</sup>	Permit process requires safety training
Gun Permit / license required; process requires local law enforcement involvement	-3.35	77% approve requirement to get permit / license from local police (Gifford Law Center)	Owners have to be licensed; obtain a permit often with involvement of law enforcement
Assault Weapons Ban	Mixed; need to also ban large mags	50% Rep; 67% all; 81% Dem	All assault weapon sales are banned

<sup>3</sup> American Journal Public Health, 2018.

Large Magazine Ban	Positive in VA;	51% Rep; 67% all; 81% Dem	Ban on large mags (and other accessories, such as bump stock)
Extreme Risk Protective Order (ERPO)	Saved lives in CN and ID (Gifford Law center)	80% support (Gifford Law Center)	Court can issue prohibition on gun purchase by persons identified as extreme risk as in domestic violence or other alerts from family / friends
Red Flag Laws	No research except ERPO	89% support (Everytown for gun safety)	Enables family / police to seek warrant to take into custody someone reportedly about to commit a violent act
Current assault weapon owners have to register or dispose	No specific studies	No data	Current owners have to dispose of guns, or register them
Repeal state-level preemption laws that limit local gun regulations	No studies, but most stricter laws work	No data	States must repeal laws that prohibit cities/counties from enacting more strict gun control
Gun buy back programs	A few studies show no effects	No data.	Law enforcement buys back guns or accessories and destroys them.
Require waiting period for gun purchases	Three studies show effectiveness (see Giffords Law Center)	78% support a 3 day waiting period (Political / Morning Consult poll)	Requires a waiting period (sometimes 3 days, sometimes longer) between application for a permit and purchase of a gun.

<https://lawcenter.giffords.org/gun-laws/state-law/Arizona/>

**Arizona Priorities!** (Based on information mainly from the Giffords Law Center that gives AZ an “F” grade on gun control legislation. Arizona is so unbelievably far behind in reasonable gun legislation).

- Require every gun owner to have a permit! To go through a universal background check. To not be able to acquire firearms through unlicensed parties. Require concealed carry weapon owners to have a permit! Impractical to try to register or license every current gun and every current gun owner; but those who carry (public or concealed) should be required to have a permit or license.
- Require every new gun owner to undergo training!
- Limit the number of firearms that a person may purchase at one time.
- Require background checks for ammunition purchases.
- Require a waiting period on firearm sales.
- Require dealers to have a state license – anyone who sells guns is a dealer!!
- Ban assault weapons, large magazines, bump stocks and “military-grade” weapons. Current ones need to be registered or turned in to law enforcement and destroyed.

REPEAL the state law that prohibits local governments from requiring more strict regulations than the state. REPEAL the state law that prohibits local law enforcement from collecting and destroying guns that owners are voluntarily turning in to them.

### **And finally, some announcements**

- **Environment Advocacy! Want to know how you can be a better advocate for the environment?**
- Here’s the **Citizen’s Climate Lobby sponsored by the Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation** in the South Valley [https://citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/AZ\\_Phoenix-South\\_Valley/](https://citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/AZ_Phoenix-South_Valley/)
- **Be an advocate!** <https://environmentarizona.org/>.
- Or find a CCL near you: Find one near you at this link <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about->

**Hold the date! OCTOBER 26!** "UUJAZ's Issues + Action Day will combine justice partners leading us in actions, incredible food and time for building relationships, inspiring music and speakers, and a surprise evening event! Join us at the UU Church of Surprise October 26th. More details to come when tickets go on sale in August... mark your calendars, you won't want to miss it!" UUs and progressives everywhere are welcome!

**Resistbot.io - How to use it.** Click on the “messages” icon on your

I-phone, then click on the pencil in the top right-hand corner. You will get a "To: " screen. Put in 504-09 and then in the message type "resist." They will respond and ask for your zip code or address and what you want to do. This is a free service, reportedly developed by volunteers. It will ask for your zip code or address, and then you can send a fax, letter, make a phone call, send an e-mail to Sen. Sinema and McSally and the House member as well or even to Governor Ducey.

After you have sent several, it will ask you which of the various people you want it sent to. At first, it just sends to all three, later it will add state-level elected officials, too. You get more services after you've used it awhile!

**Want to subscribe to the *Arizona Legislative Alert*?** The AZ Legislative Alert is published weekly during the session to alert progressive, social justice advocates, to legislation that they may want to support or oppose. When the Legislature is not in session, it is published sporadically! You can sign up by sending an email to [legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org](mailto:legislativeadvocacy@vuu.org). It is written and published by Anne L. Schneider, Ph.D. retired political science professor and former Dean of ASU's College of Public Programs.

[Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation](#) –

Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Andy Burnette; Music Minister, Rev. Kellie Walker; Director of Faith Formation, Marci Beaudoin. Administrator, Sue Ringler. Located: 6400 W. Del Rio Drive, Chandler, AZ 480 899 4249 [www.vuu.org](http://www.vuu.org) For previous copies of the *Arizona Legislative Alert*, and for all weeks (so far) of the 50 Week Action Plan go to <https://www.vuu.org/legislative-advocacy>. VUU holds services at 10:30 to 11:30 on Sunday. There are numerous discussion / forums before and after the service. You are welcome here.

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