

Harris' Policies on School Safety & Gun Violence

Excerpts from "FACT SHEET: Vice President Kamala Harris Announces Two Gun Safety Solutions While Continuing Efforts to Keep Schools Safe from Gun Violence" 3-23-24

"Keeping students safe from gun violence in their school communities is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration. President Biden and Vice President Harris worked to enact the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), the most significant gun safety law in nearly 30 years. The President created the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention, which is being overseen by Vice President Harris. The unprecedented Office is accelerating the implementation of BSCA, identifying new executive actions, partnering with state and local officials, and coordinating the first-ever federal interagency response to mass shootings and concentrations of community violence.

The Biden Administration has invested more resources in school safety and taken significant steps to keep firearms out of school. The strategy has focused on (1) stopping people in crisis and juveniles from accessing firearms, (2) implementing evidence-based school-based preventative solutions, and (3) addressing the mental health needs of students, particularly those impacted by gun violence.

During her visit to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, the Vice President is announcing two solutions to keep guns out of the hands of people in crisis:

First, Vice President Harris is announcing the launch of the first-ever National Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Resource Center, which will support the effective implementation of state red flag laws.

Second, the Vice President is calling on states to pass red flag laws and to use BSCA funding to help implement laws already enacted. Extreme Risk Protection Order or "Red Flag" Laws Can Prevent Shootings

Largest Dedicated Effort on Evidence-Based School-Based Solutions

The Biden-Harris Administration provided \$1 billion to schools through the [Stronger Connections Grant](#) program, which helps provide students with safe and supportive learning opportunities and environments that are critical for their success and overall well-being.

Historic Investment in Student Mental Health

The Biden-Harris Administration awarded \$122 billion in American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds to help schools reopen and recover, and experts indicate more than [\\$2 billion has been directed](#) to hire more school psychologists, counselors, and other mental health professionals in K-12 schools

The Biden-Harris Administration will continue to take action to ensure that our schools and our communities are safe from gun violence.

At the same time President Biden and Vice President Harris call on Congress to pass universal background checks, a national red flag law, an assault weapons ban, and a secure storage law; to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA), which gives gun dealers and manufactures special immunity from certain liability for their products; and to increase appropriations to support youth mental health and violence prevention strategies."