



Congregational Action Plan to End Gun Violence in CA

[CalVIP budget Request and AB 1603](#)

KEY ACTIONS:

- 1. Congregational or Clergy Letter** to state Assemblymember(s) and state Senator(s) by May 3 asking them to support the \$39 million CalVIP budget request and AB 1603 The Break the Cycle of Violence Act.

RAC-CA has a [model letter](#) to be adapted by congregation or clergy person, printed on Congregation letterhead, and sent to legislators. You can find the address of your legislators in Sacramento at <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>.

- 2. Legislative Call-In Week April 29-May 3.** Reform Jews from around the state will call Governor Newsom to ask him to include \$39 million for CalVIP local gun violence prevention programs in his May revised budget. Our goal is 800 calls to the Governor.

To make a call April 29-May 3, go to www.rac.org/CAGVPcall to find

- Talking points
- The Governor phone number
- A place to report on your call

Congregation are setting goals for the number of calls from their congregants. The goals should be a stretch but also achievable. To reach our goal of 800 calls, we need congregations to average 20 calls – if you are one of the larger congregations, we need more calls from you. Email rac-ca@rac.org with your congregation's goal.

To meet your congregation's stretch-but-achievable call goals, email is not enough. Congregational social justice leaders will need to actively reach out to their fellow congregants through:



The Religious Action Center pursues social justice and religious liberty by mobilizing the Reform Jewish community and serving as its advocate in Washington, D.C. The Center is led by the Commission on Social Action of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union for Reform Judaism (and its affiliates) and is supported by the congregations of the Union.



- Phone banks
- Announcements at services, sisterhood meetings, and at other gatherings of congregants
- Greeters who talk to people before and after services, during religious school pick up and drop off, and at other times when people from your congregation gather.

RAC-CA will provide you with [resources to help you reach your call goals](#):

- Sample email to send out
- Phone Bank script
- Sample announcement
- Greeter script
- Leaflet for greeters to hand out

These materials will be up on <http://www.rac.org/CAcallresources> by April 17.

Call-in week is less than 3 weeks away. Start organizing now to make sure your congregation helps generate 800 calls from Reform Jews to Governor Newsom and win funding for CalVIP local gun violence programs.

SUPPORTIVE ACTIONS:

- 3. Target Meetings with Legislators in-district** for congregations in key districts. We will let you know if you are in a key district by April 19.
- 4. Local Actions** with coalition and allies such as Moms Demand Action or grantee programs like Youth Alive. We would reach out to mainstream media connections and use social media to get coverage of these local actions and CalVIP. Email RAC-CA@rac.org if you would like to help plan a march or vigil in your area.