



Gun Violence Prevention

Require police standards and training for gun violence restraining orders

[AB 165 \(Gabriel\): Peace Officer Training – Gun Violence Restraining Orders](#)

[AB 339 \(Irwin\): Gun Violence Restraining Orders – Law Enforcement Procedures](#)

Background

Gun violence restraining orders (GVROs), also known as extreme risk protection orders, are legal tools designed to prevent a subject deemed at high risk for violence from obtaining firearms and/or temporarily remove firearms from the subject's possession. In 2016, California became the first state to allow police officers, family members, and roommates to ask a judge to issue a GVRO. Despite this change, however, fewer than 200 GVROs were issued in the first two years after the law was passed.¹ Many law enforcement agencies do not have procedures governing the use of GVROs and many officers do not know to implement this tool.

Legislative Summary

AB 165 (Gabriel) requires that law enforcement officers receive training in GVROs. AB 339 (Irwin) requires law enforcement agencies to establish standards and regulations for the use of GVROs. Because GVROs already exist, these bills do not create a new tool for gun violence prevention nor increase the power of an existing tool. Rather, these bills only provide training and require standards for the use of GVROs.

Jewish Values

Jewish tradition emphasizes the sanctity and value of human life. The Mishnah teaches us that "he who takes one life it is as though he has destroyed the universe and he who saves one life, it is as though he has saved the universe" (Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:5). The carelessness with which human life is taken by guns directly violates our tradition. Our scripture also encourages peaceful pursuit of our mutual welfare. Isaiah exhorts the people of the earth to "beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks." (Isaiah 2:4) We are commanded to turn weapons of destruction into tools for the greater good of society. Leviticus 19:16 instructs us, "Do not stand idly by while your neighbor's blood is shed." We believe in the power of prayer, but prayer is a call to action, not a substitute for it.

¹ <https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-gun-violence-restraining-order-law-20180919-story.html>

Legislative Progress as of August 11, 2019

Both AB-165 (the GVRO training bill) and AB-339 (the GVRO standards bill) have passed the state Assembly and the Senate Public Safety Committee. Both bills are now in the Senate Appropriations “suspense file” where they will either be discharged for a Senate floor vote or stay in suspense and die.