



2020 AG REQUEST LEGISLATION

AMMUNITION BACKGROUND CHECKS AND OTHER REASONABLE PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES TO RESTRICT DANGEROUS INDIVIDUALS' ACCESS TO AMMUNITION

Problem:

Washington law does **not**:

- Prohibit violent felons and other individuals ineligible to possess firearms from possessing ammunition;
- Require a license to sell ammunition; or
- Require background checks on ammunition purchases.

Solution:

Dangerous individuals who illegally acquire firearms must not enjoy easy access to ammunition. Common sense policies can protect the public by making it harder for dangerous individuals to acquire ammunition.

The public supports laws regulating ammunition sales. A survey conducted by Fox News found that 80% of respondents supported laws requiring background checks on purchasers of ammunition.¹

Around the US:

- California, Massachusetts, New York, and Washington D.C. require a license to sell ammunition;
- California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington D.C. prohibit the possession of ammunition by individuals prohibited from owning firearms;
- Louisiana, Nevada, and Texas prohibit the knowing sale of ammunition to violent offenders; and
- California and New York have passed laws requiring background checks for all purchases of ammunition.

Legislation: **HB 2519**

This legislation:

- Prohibits violent felons and other individuals who cannot lawfully obtain firearms from purchasing or possessing ammunition
- Makes it illegal for firearms dealers to knowingly sell ammunition to violent felons and other individuals prohibited from owning firearms
- Prohibits dealers from knowingly selling ammunition to violent offenders and other individuals prohibited from owning firearms
- Requires ammunition sellers to obtain a state firearms license, which costs \$125. This change will not impact current firearms dealers
- Requires background checks for all ammunition sales 30 days after the U.S. Department of Justice changes its rules and authorizes dealers to use the national instant criminal background check system, known as NICS, to initiate a check for a transfer of ammunition

Key Support:

- TBD

Prime Sponsors:

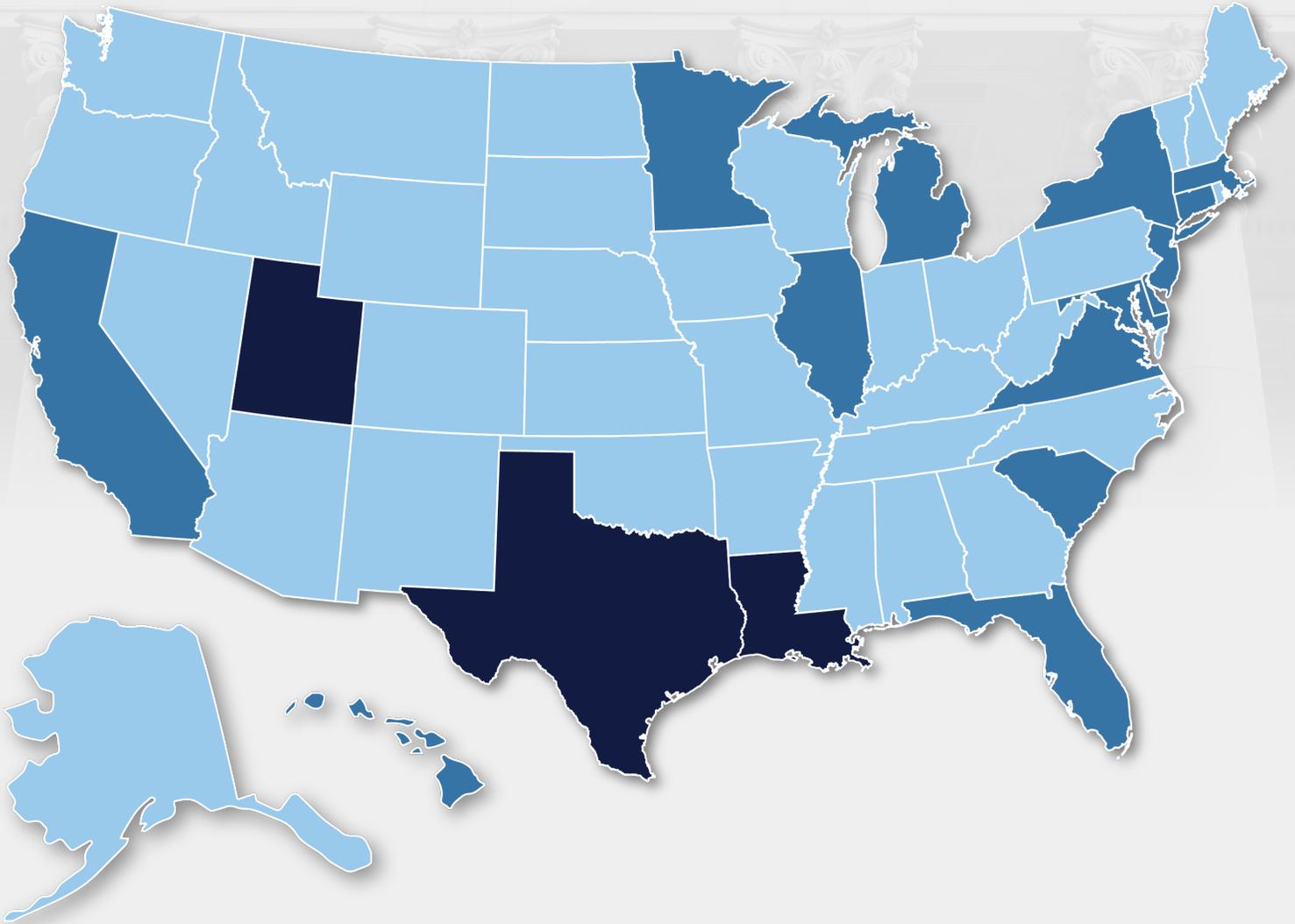
Rep. Walen

1: Dana Blanton, Fox News poll: Twice as Many Favor More Guns over Banning Guns to Reduce Crime, FoxNews.com (Jan. 18, 2013), at <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fox-news-poll-twice-as-many-favor-more-guns-over-banning-guns-to-reduce-crime>.



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California[1], Connecticut[2], Delaware[3], Florida[4], Hawaii[5], Illinois[6], Maryland[7], Massachusetts[8], Michigan[9], Minnesota[10], New Jersey[11], New York[12], South Carolina[13], Virginia[14], and Washington D.C.[15] prohibit the possession of ammunition by individuals prohibited from owning firearms;

Louisiana[16], Nevada[17], and Texas[18] prohibit the knowing sale of ammunition to violent offenders.

1. Cal. Penal Code § 30305
2. Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 29-38n – 29-38p
3. Del. Code Ann. tit. 11 § 1448
4. Fla. Stat. Ann. §§ 790.23 – 790.235
5. Haw. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 134
6. 430 Ill. Comp. Stat. 65/2, 65/8
7. Md. Code Ann., Pub. Safety § 5-133.1
8. Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 140, §§ 129B, 129C, 131, 131A, 131E
9. Mich. Comp. Laws §§ 750.223(3), 750.224f
10. Minn. Stat. § 624.713, subd. 1, 1a, 2
11. N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ N.J. Stat. Ann. § 2C:39-7
12. N.Y. Penal Law §§ 265.05, N.Y. Penal Law § 270.00(5), 400.00
13. S.C. Code § 16-23-500
14. Va. Code § 18.2-308.2
15. D.C. Code Ann. §§ 7-2505.02, 7-2506.01
16. La. Rev. Stat. § 14:95.1.2.
17. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 202.362(1)
18. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 46.06(a)(3) – (4)