



Working to End Gun Violence

Congressman Paul D. Tonko

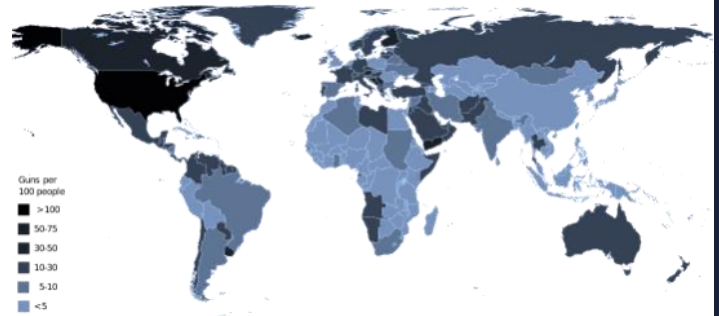
116th Congress

"As America's death toll from gun violence continues to rise, we must let science and good sense bring us back together and ensure our families & communities are safe."

❖ Paul Tonko

America is facing a gun violence epidemic

- More than **36,000 Americans die** every year from gun violence
 - **100 lives lost every day**
 - Increased **16%** from 2014-2017
- We are **29x more likely to die of a gun homicide** than the people of any other developed nation
- Not explained by video games or mental illness
- The only major factor that distinguishes the U.S. from our peers is **the number of guns**



Map of civilian guns per 100 people by country from the Small Arms Survey 2017

We can take action to stop it

- Despite years of gun industry lobbying to stop scientific research into gun violence, there is ample evidence that gun safety laws save lives
 - Research shows "safe storage" laws that prevent children from accessing guns save lives
 - Strong background checks & red flag laws are already saving lives in states that have them

Congress Needs to Do its Job!

The House of Representatives has passed **H.R. 8: Bipartisan Background Checks Act**. In addition, Congressman Tonko also cosponsors other common-sense gun safety legislation including:

- **The Disarm Hate Act**: prohibits individuals convicted of a misdemeanor-level hate crime or who have received an enhanced sentence for a misdemeanor crime after a judicial finding that they acted with hate or bias motivation from buying or possessing guns
- **The COOL OFF Act**: requires all buyers to wait three business days before receiving a handgun, regardless of how quickly they pass a background check
- **The Assault Weapons Ban**: prohibits sale, transfer, production, importation of semi-automatic rifles, shotguns and pistols that have military-style features including large magazine sizes
- **The Extreme Risk Protection Order Act**: sets up a grant program to incentivize states to adopt extreme risk (a.k.a. red flag) laws that allow for courts to direct the temporary removal of firearms from a person at risk of harming themselves or others
- **The Zero Tolerance for Domestic Abusers Act**: protects survivors of dating violence & stalking by closing two loopholes in existing law and maintaining due process protections for the accused

[Learn more at TONKO.HOUSE.GOV/GUNS](https://www.house.gov/rep/tonko/guns)

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