

Public Safety – Comprehensive Firearms Regulation Proposal

Sen. John Marty

This gun safety legislation would make our communities safer through responsible regulation of firearms. With growing problem of gun violence, it is time to act. Those who talk about being “tough on crime” while refusing to address gun violence are offering hollow rhetoric.

Those who argue that we should not have any firearms regulation because it has an impact on them, are essentially saying that there should be no regulation of a person seeking to acquire a gun for carjacking or armed robbery or murder until *after* they have committed their violent acts.

Like the regulations we put on motor vehicles and driving, it is reasonable to require training, testing, and insurance for gun owners. This legislation would implement a licensing and registration system for firearms, to make their ownership and possession safer and to prevent criminals and untrained people from obtaining and using them.

Licensure

License would require:

- Training and passage of a test
- Insurance
- Background check

To obtain, possess, or carry a firearm, one would need to obtain a license. A license would require training in firearms safety, knowledge of laws relating to firearms, safe storage, strategies for deescalating a potentially deadly situation, and passage of an exam on the training. It would also require the owner to have liability insurance. This complements Minnesota’s universal background check law, which would be required for licensure. No gun sales or transfers would be allowed to a person without a license. Existing gun owners would need to get a license but would be exempted from the training requirements.

Registration

Firearms would be required to be registered, with re-registration at the time of transfer to a new owner.

Current gun owners could obtain a license and register firearms without the training requirement if they get their license and register guns within the first 18 months. If they fail to get a license and register firearms before that date, they would be required to complete the training.

Bans:

- Assault weapons
- Large capacity ammunition magazines
- .50 caliber or larger guns
- Undetectable guns

Current owners of assault weapons would be required to register them and safely store them and could possess them only on their property or at shooting ranges.

Undetectable guns are guns that cannot be detected by metal detectors. While federal law prohibits some undetectable firearms, there are loopholes in the law that need to be addressed. Large capacity ammunition magazines are those that contain more than 10 rounds.

Age limits

People under age 21 would be prohibited from possessing pistols and some other firearms. Minors under 18 would have additional restrictions on gun possession.

Tightens up restrictions on who can carry a gun and where they can carry it

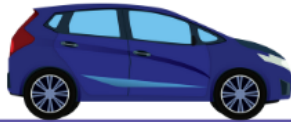
- Prohibits carrying guns in state and local public buildings (unless specifically authorized)
- Prohibits the open carrying of a gun to intimidate others (would require concealed carry).
- Requires more extensive training to get a permit
- Requires permit holder training in strategies for safely retreating; not escalating a potentially lethal encounter
- Requires liability insurance for carrying a gun
- Makes a crime of carrying gun in private establishments that ban guns
- Gives shopping malls and other businesses more ability to ban guns

Additional provisions:

- Establishes a crime of gun trafficking
- Limits purchases to no more than one gun per month
- Requires safe storage of firearms
- Requires prompt reporting of lost or stolen firearms
- Establishes criminal penalties if guns are not safely stored & a child gains access
- Liability insurance required for possession of guns; also required for carrying a pistol
- Creates training & testing requirements for gun license and additional training & testing for a carry permit

SAFETY REGULATION FOR CARS AND GUNS

Regulation saves lives. Motor vehicle regulations cut the traffic death toll by a *stunning 90%* per mile traveled, over the decades.* We could likewise save countless lives and sharply reduce violent crime through reasonable gun regulation.



Cars	Guns
Training and testing are required to get a license	No training or testing
License required for driving	No licensing
Registration required for the vehicle (& re-registration when transferring ownership)	No registration
Liability insurance required for driving	No insurance
Safety standards and equipment required (like seatbelts & airbags)	No safety equipment required

Gun regulation would save lives. States with stronger gun laws average *far less than half* the gun violence deaths per capita than states with the weakest laws.**

Sources:

* <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/motor-vehicle/historical-fatality-trends/deaths-and-rates/>

** <https://everytownresearch.org/rankings/>