



## HALF OF GUN OWNERS HAVE UNSECURED GUNS: **SAFE STORAGE SAVES LIVES.**

A toddler takes a gun out of a Paw Patrol backpack. He shoots his mom with it. A teenager uses his parents' firearm to kill four at his school in Oxford, Michigan. A five-year-old finds an unsecured gun while playing with his brother.

More than half of gun-owners keep at least one firearm without any lock or other safe storage measure. Gun owners have an obligation in civilized society to lock up a firearm, but Pennsylvania law does not require them to do so.

Changing that could prevent unintentional shootings, school shootings, and suicide.

### HOW IT WORKS



#### SAFE STORAGE

Safe storage laws require gun owners to keep a firearm secured in a gun safe, with a trigger lock or other secured location when not under their control. This ensures that children cannot access the firearm and helps prevent stolen weapons, which are often trafficked underground.



#### CHILD ACCESS PREVENTION

Firearms are the leading cause of death for American children, according to recently released data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 5 deaths per 100,000 Americans between the ages of 1 and 19 were due to guns in 2020. Child access prevention laws limit the safe storage requirements to only apply if it's possible that a minor could access the firearm. This increases public safety and ensures that children are kept safe from guns.



#### FAILURE TO COMPLY

If a gun owner keeps a firearm unsecured, they can be held liable under safe storage laws. These consequences range from a low-level fine (a summary conviction) for first time offenders to more serious penalties for repeated violations or during instances when someone is either injured or killed as a result of unlawfully accessing a firearm.



**TAKE A STAND**

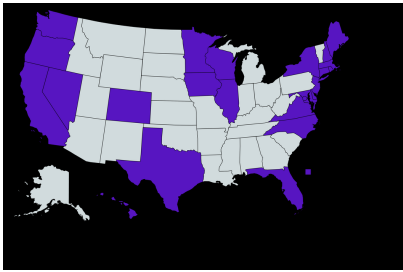
To learn more visit [www.ceasefirepa.org](http://www.ceasefirepa.org)



[info@ceasefirepa.org](mailto:info@ceasefirepa.org)



215-923-3151



## Safe Storage save lives in 19 states. Pennsylvania should be next.

A 6-year-old was playing in his home with his younger brother in the Pittsburgh suburbs when they discovered an unsecured firearm while playing in the bedroom. No adults were around. Moments later, the 6-year-old unintentionally shot his brother, Connor.

Days later, a 4-year old got ahold of an unsecured loaded gun and shot himself in the face. His name was Ajani Lane and he likely would be alive if the firearm was locked up.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends gun owners store firearms unloaded, locked and separate from ammunition. This is especially true if you have children in your home.

### SAVING LIVES

The proposed legislation would help ensure gun owners act responsibly by requiring them to secure their firearms. Many gun owners already do this, but not all of them. And that's why Safe Storage laws are necessary to save lives.



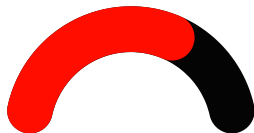
**4.6 M**

children in the US live in a home with an unsecured, loaded firearm



**80%**

of school shooters under 18 access the firearm from the home of friends, relatives or their own



**82%**

of adolescent firearm suicides involve a gun belonging to a family member



**380,000**

guns are stolen annually in the United States.



**TAKE A STAND FOR SAFE STORAGE AT**  
[CeaseFirePA.org/take-action](https://CeaseFirePA.org/take-action)