



★ DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER | 7 APRIL 2018 | ISSUE 7

DELAWARE STATE LEGISLATION

On 27 March 2018, with a 39-0 vote, [the Delaware House of Representatives approved HB 302](#), which is also known as the 'Beau Biden Gun Violence Prevention Act'. The Bill's chief sponsor, Representative David Bentz said that "this is good policy, [in that] we need to do something about mental health and making sure people who are committed to committing acts of violence can't get access to weapons." The Bill, which was approved with bipartisan support in the House, now awaits a vote from the Senate. Read Gov. John Carney's [statement](#) in support of HB 302.

House Substitute 1 for House Bill 330, which would increase the minimum age to purchase a rifle and ammunition from 18 to 21, was approved in the Delaware House mostly along party lines. [This Bill has been tabled by the Delaware Senate](#) until the Legislature returns from a two-week recess, on 17 April. If passed and signed, Delaware would be the fourth state to increase the minimum age for buying long guns to 21 years old.

[Delaware Senator Bryan Townsend introduced legislation](#) – Senate Bill 163 – which "seeks to block the sale, transfer and import of 'assault rifles' and 'assault pistols.'" The legislation would allow everyone who currently owns such a weapon to keep it and there would be no mandatory registration. The legislation would limit the use and transportation of the grandfathered weapons and would ban new sales.

RESOURCES

Access [Giffords](#) latest GunLawTrendWatch [here](#).

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

The 24 March 2018, March for Our Lives, which was [one of the biggest youth protests since the Vietnam War](#), saw at least 1.2 million pro-gun-control protestors rally in cities across the United States, and thousands in [cities around the world](#), including London, Sydney and Tokyo. The rally, which comes in immediate response to the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, also encompasses a nationwide movement that is fed up with the high rates of gun violence across the country. Those marching also included [gun owners](#) who believe that gun reform is necessary.

In Wilmington, Delaware, protestors who marched from Howard High School to Rodney Square, heard speeches from many people, including students and individuals affected by gun violence. In addition, they were surprised by an [unexpected speech](#) from Delaware's own [former Vice President Joe Biden](#). Access pictures from the rally [here](#).

PROGRESS SINCE PARKLAND

Due to an increase in activism after the 14 February school shooting, [there has been a strengthening of momentum](#), as local, state, and national legislators have passed various gun control measures. In addition to Congress passing new federal policies in the omnibus spending bill, including three measures in response to the Parkland shooting – making it easier for the [Centers for Disease Control to investigate](#) the causes of gun violence ([although it has yet to be funded](#)), providing [more than \\$1 billion over 10 years](#) for various school safety initiatives, and a bipartisan provision that incentivizes states to upload information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.



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April 10th, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Rally Against Gun Violence

Location: University of Delaware North Green

MAKE IT STOP.

April 11th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Spring into Action - Learn, Volunteer, Take Action

Location: Newark Natural Foods – 230 East Main Street, Newark, Delaware 19711



April 13th, 6 - 7 PM

Ban Assault Weapons Rally for Our Lives: Support Senate Bill 163

Location: Route One southbound on the sidewalk from IHOP to the Exxon Station

BAN ASSAULT WEAPONS

Rally for Our Lives

Support Senate Bill 163

Friday, April 13

6:00 TO 7:00 pm

Route One southbound on the sidewalk from IHOP to the Exxon Station
Parallel to Tanger BaySide Shopping Center (Vanity Fair/Old Navy/Nike)

April 16th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

A Community Conversation on Gun Violence

Location: Middletown High School Auditorium

***A Community Conversation
on Gun Violence***

A moderated panel discussion on legislation before the Delaware General Assembly followed by Q & A.

<small>Rep. Valerie Longhurst (D - Delaware City)</small>	<small>Sen. Brian Pettijohn (R - Georgetown)</small>
<small>Sen. Brian Townsend (D - Newark)</small>	<small>Sen. Anthony Delcollo (R - Elsmere)</small>

Middletown High School Auditorium
Monday April 16 6:30 - 8:30 pm

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