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Handgun Control

Jen Harbury

Hawaii

Head Start

- Early Childhood Development

Head Start II

- Early Childhood Development

Healthcare Cong. Meeting

- Health Reform

Health and Human Service Resources

AM International Health Alliance

- Health Reform

Kid's Health

Health Reform

- Health Reform

Healthcare

- Health Reform

Healthcare

- Health Reform

Healthcare HMO

- Health Reform

ENCLOSURES FILED OVERSIZE ATTACHMENTS

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NAXA17239

Funders' Collaborative for Gun Violence Prevention

400 West 59th Street, New York, NY 10019

Gun Violence Prevention Update

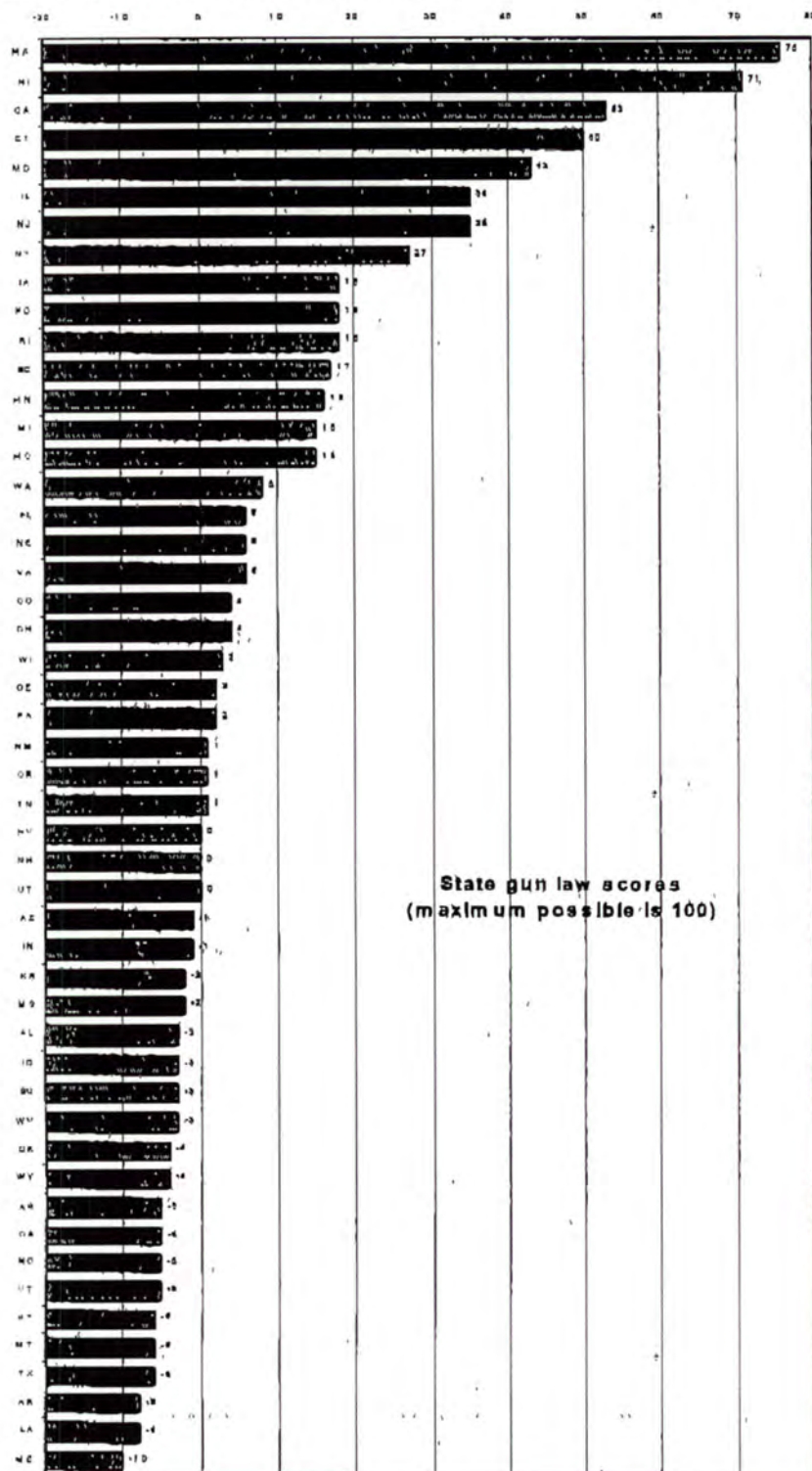
Recent News and Developments in the Campaign to End Gun Violence

April 14, 2000

file handgun control

handgun?

FUNDERS' COLLABORATIVE NEWS



State gun law scores
(maximum possible is 100)

• The first comprehensive survey of state gun laws was released this month by the Funders' Collaborative and the Open Society Institute's Center on Crime, Community & Culture.

'Gun Control in the United States: A Comparative Survey of State Firearm Laws' analyzes and ranks each state's gun laws based on 30 criteria, including gun registration, owner licensing, safety training, waiting periods, background checks, minimum age limits, safe storage requirements, one-gun-a-month laws, assault weapon and junk gun bans, and barriers to local gun laws and on lawsuits against the gun industry.

The survey found extremely low levels of gun control across most of the country: out of a possible 100 points, the average score was only 9. The top-ranking states were Massachusetts (score of 76), Hawaii (71), California (53), Connecticut (50), Maryland (43), Illinois (35), New Jersey (35) and New York (27).

The report was covered extensively in the media including the Los Angeles Times, Boston Globe, Washington Post, Atlanta Constitution Journal, Christian Science Monitor, Denver Post, CBS Radio and TV, ABC Radio and TV, MSNBC, NPR, the Talk America Network, and many other local newspapers and radio shows.

It has also attracted strong interest from legislators, government officials and educators. The Justice Dept and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms ordered 50, and many other requests for multiple copies have come in. Massachusetts State Senator Cheryl Jacques has proposed a conference of state legislators to discuss the report and ways to bring greater consistency to gun laws across the nation.

The report is on the internet at www.soros.org/crime/guncontrol.htm.

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE COLLABORATIVE: *FOCUS ON THE MILLION MOM MARCH*

The Million Mom March on Mother's Day looks set to go down in history as a significant turning point for the gun violence prevention movement. More than 350 buses have been chartered to bring participants to the main event in Washington DC, along with a train from New Jersey and

two planes from California. The *Washington Post* has assigned a full-time reporter to cover MMM preparations, and the satellite events across the country are also getting daily media coverage. Here is the latest list of satellite events (date is May 14, 2000 unless otherwise noted):

Arizona

- Phoenix: 2:30pm Patriots Square Park
- Tucson: 2pm Reid Park

California

- Downtown LA: 10am Wilshire Federal
- San Diego: 1pm San Diego City School Education Center
- West LA: 10am Olivera Street
- Oakland/San Francisco: 1pm Lake Merritt Bandstand
- Sacramento: 2pm Tower Bridge Capitol Mall
- Watsonville: 10am Watsonville Town Square

Colorado

- Denver: Civic Center Park Amphitheater In front of Capitol

Connecticut

- West Hartford: 4/30

Florida

- Pompano Beach: 10:30am Trade Winds Park, Sample Rd
- Sarasota: 4/29, 1pm Longwood Park

Georgia

- Atlanta: 2pm March from Turner Field to Capitol Building

Illinois

- Champaign-Urbana: 12:30pm March starts Southside School and ends with rally at Hessel Park
- Chicago: 1pm Lake Shore Drive & Randolph

Kentucky

- Louisville: 3pm Waterfront Park

Michigan

- Detroit: 4/30, 4pm Cobo Hall
4/28, 12pm Kennedy Square
4/27, 5pm Perfecting Church
- Lansing: 2pm Capitol Building

Minnesota

- Duluth: 5/7, 2pm First Lutheran Church
- Minneapolis/St Paul: 5/6, 1pm Veterans Bldg, Capitol area

Missouri

- Kansas City: 5/13, 11am Mill Creek Park

Ohio

- Cleveland: 4pm Interfaith service, Church of the Covenant

Oklahoma

- Tulsa: 1:30pm 41st St and Riverside Drive

Oregon

- Portland: 11am Interfaith service, First Unitarian Church, plus march to Pioneer Courthouse Square, then rally

Texas

- Austin: 1pm Governor's Mansion
- Ft Worth/Dallas: 2pm March from Tarrant County Court House to Fort Worth Convention Center
- San Antonio: 3:30pm San Fernando Cathedral

Washington

- Seattle: 12pm March from Seattle Center to West Lake

NATIONAL NEWS

♦ The House passed a bill giving financial rewards to states that adopt Project Exile, a program that imposes a 5-year sentence on anyone using a gun in a violent crime or serious drug trafficking offense.

♦ Smith & Wesson is backing away from aspects of its voluntary gun control agreement. HUD and the cities that made the agreement say they expect S&W to comply, and they will use their law enforcement purchasing power to pressure other gun makers into doing the same. Glock and Browning say they will not follow S&W's example. More than 20 subpoenas have been issued against manufacturers and distributors by prosecutors investigating whether the gun industry is illegally trying to punish S&W for signing the agreement.

♦ In a letter to Charlton Heston, a group of law and history professors accused the National Rifle Assn of misleading the public by suggesting that proposed gun laws would violate the Constitution. The letter says the

2nd Amendment "plainly permits reasonable firearms regulations," including bans on certain weapons, safety device requirements and gun registration and licensing.

♦ The NRA has donated more than \$550,000 to Republican Party committees, cracking the GOP's list of top five "soft money" contributors for the first time.

♦ More than half of gun owners with children keep their weapons unlocked at home, a new study found.

♦ Due to a pro-gun backlash, Citibank will change its policy and do business with gun makers and dealers. Citibank had canceled an account opened by a Nevada firing range, citing 'a long-standing policy of not engaging in financial relationships with businesses that manufacture or sell military weapons, military munitions or firearms.' But after gun-rights advocates canceled accounts, mailed in cut-up credit cards, and issued Internet alerts, the bank decided to reverse its policy.

STATE NEWS

Colorado ♦ With the defeat of a bill to close the gun-show loophole, advocates must collect 62,000 signatures to put the measure on the ballot as a referendum in the November election. ♦ Gov. Bill Owens signed into law a proposal to include juvenile criminal records in background checks for gun purchases. ♦ The National Shooting Sports Foundation will give 5,000 free gun locks to Denver residents who want to secure their guns.

Georgia ♦ Sen. David Scott, D-Atlanta, has authored a bill to make it a misdemeanor for adults to leave a handgun within easy reach of a child under 18. Violators would be fined a minimum of \$1,000 for a first offense and jailed for at least 60 days if they broke the law again.

Illinois ♦ Litigation continues from Chicago's Operation Gunsmoke, a 1998 program that sent undercover police officers into gun stores to see if retailers would or break the law on weapon sales. Despite videos showing that dealers routinely facilitated illegal gun trafficking, prosecutors have difficulty in obtaining convictions.

Maine ♦ The Senate rejected a proposal for a study of the state's gun laws, although the Funders' Collaborative survey found that they are the worst in the nation.

Maryland ♦ Gov. Parris Glendening signed legislation making MD the first state to require that new handguns be sold with built-in locks, from 2003. Also, from 2002 all gun buyers must complete a safety course. ♦ House and Senate committees heard testimony in favor of two bills expanding police powers to seize guns from people subject to domestic violence restraining orders. ♦ More than half of likely MD voters favor banning the sale of handguns in the state, according to a new poll.

Massachusetts ♦ Attorney General Tom Reilly will begin enforcing the state's new gun safety standards, which were held up by a court battle with the industry.

Michigan ♦ The House passed a bill to give school officials the right to search children's lockers for weapons. ♦ The Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners, which opposes mandatory trigger locks, bought 1,008 gun locks to give away to state residents.

New Hampshire ♦ The Senate defeated a bill which would have made it a Class A misdemeanor to leave a loaded firearm where a child is likely to gain access to it.

New Jersey ♦ Senate President Donald DiFrancesco unveiled his plan to mandate the sale of 'smart guns' that can only be fired by their owner.

New York ♦ NYC Rudolph Giuliani said he supports a licensing system for gun owners, similar to that required of motorists, with a written test of potential owners' safety knowledge and responsibility regarding guns.

Ohio ♦ Rep. Ann Wormer (R) unveiled a rewrite of her stalled safe storage bill which would punish adults who store guns where a minor can gain access without permission or adult supervision.

Oregon ♦ The Oregon Supreme Court approved ballot titles for two rival initiative proposals to expand background checks on gun sales, clearing the way for backers to circulate petitions before a July deadline.

Texas ♦ Texans Against Gun Violence endorsed Houston Mayor Lee Brown's Operation Safe & Secure program, a public education and buyback campaign designed to raise awareness of gun safety.

Utah ♦ The House voted to raise the price of concealed weapons permits issued to non-Utah residents. If approved by the Senate, fees will rise to \$65 from \$30 for a permit and to \$25 from \$10 for each five-year renewal.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Australia ♦ The South Australian government may take international legal action to stop an NRA ad campaign it says has wrongfully damaged the state's reputation. The NRA video falsely claims that the crime rate has risen as a result of the national gun buyback campaign.

Honduras ♦ The Congress has approved strict gun laws in response to a crime wave. All guns must be registered and high-caliber and automatic weapons will be banned.

Kenya ♦ Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda have set up a security committee to curb the proliferation of guns. The flow of illegal arms into the region has contributed to the rising rate of violent crimes and conflicts.

Pakistan ♦ The Minister of the Interior enacted a new law making it illegal to display weapons publicly. In a country where some believe that carrying a weapon in public is a symbol of power, the law is an important first step to banning weapons from the streets.

South Africa ♦ To mark International Women's Day, hundreds of women marched through the streets of Cape Town. Adele Kirsten, spokeswoman for Gun Free South Africa, said effective gun control is a necessary part of any strategy to reduce violence against women. A firearms bill will be tabled in Parliament before the end of this month.