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AB 276 (Friedman)

Pupil Safety: parental notification of firearm safety laws Fact Sheet

Summary: AB 276 will help keep children safe from gun violence both at home and in their classrooms. The bill requires schools to inform parents and guardians about California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms.

Need for bill: California has strong child access prevention (CAP) laws. A parent can be held criminally liable if they leave their gun (loaded or unloaded) where a child can gain access to it. However, the life-saving benefits of these strong firearm storage laws may not be realized if parents and guardians do not know about them. Schools can make sure they know.

AB 276 will save lives. The facts speak for themselves:

- ★ **4.6 million children** live in homes with access to an unlocked or unsupervised gun.
- ★ **75% of kids** know where that gun is stored in their home
- ★ **1 in 5 parents** said their child never handled guns without supervision. They were mistaken.
- ★ **75% of school shootings** are facilitated by kids having access to unsecured and/or unsupervised guns at home.
- ★ Every day, **8 kids** are unintentionally injured or killed due to an unlocked or unsupervised gun in the home.

(Citations available at <https://www.bradyunited.org/program/end-family-fire>)

Both the former and current State Superintendent of Instruction have encouraged schools to send home information about California's CAP and safe firearm storage laws. Local school districts in Los Angeles, San Diego, Penn Valley, and elsewhere have already implemented measures similar to AB 276, but in order to protect all children in the state, every school must send home information.

AB 276: The bill **requires** every school district, county office of education, and charter school to inform parents and guardians of pupils at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term of California's child access prevention laws and laws relating to the safe storage of firearms. The bill requires the State Department of Education to develop, in consultation with Cal DOJ, and annually provide to schools the appropriate content to use for the notification.

Preventing child access to firearms not only reduces the risk of unintentional or suicidal shootings in the home, but also reduces the risk of shootings at school.

Help reduce gun violence: Text **BradyCA** to **877-877**