



Legislation Summary:

An Act temporarily preventing firearm access for extremely dangerous or suicidal individuals

Initial bill number: H.3610 (Bill numbers will change as legislation proceeds.)

Sponsor: Rep. Marjorie Decker

This bill would enable a family or household member or a law enforcement officer or agency to petition the court for a one-year extreme risk protection order (ERPO) that would prohibit a person from “having in his or her custody or control, owning, purchasing, possessing or receiving any firearms or ammunition.” It includes a provision that such an order could be issued even before a court hearing if the petition includes detailed information that the subject of the petition poses a significant danger of causing imminent personal injury to self or others.

The first two sections add such an ERPO to the existing restrictions for granting firearms identification cards and firearms licenses.

The remaining sections spell out how the process would be implemented, including defining who could request such an order. Notably there is a provision to keep the address of a petitioner secret if certain conditions are met, protecting domestic violence victims who seek an ERPO. The bill details the process for obtaining such an order, enforcing it, storing confiscated weapons, and conditions for ending or renewing the order and for returning weapons.

League position: From LWVMA *Where We Stand*, p. 47:

Until such a time as a ban on the private possession of handguns and assault weapons becomes law the League supports:

- improved and standardized licensing procedures
- training in the use of handguns and assault weapons and the responsibilities of ownership
- education of the public to the dangers of the handgun in the home
- strict enforcement of the present laws concerning handgun ownership
- measures to encourage the removal of all handguns and assault weapons from the home and street

From LWVUS *Impact on Issues*:

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the proliferation of handguns and semi-automatic assault weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to

its citizens. The League supports strong federal measures to limit the accessibility and regulate the ownership of these weapons by private citizens. The League supports regulating firearms for consumer safety.