



Lawmakers, leaders respond to Gov. Snyder's veto of gun bill

Leaders in Lansing and elsewhere in the state generally praised [Gov. Rick Snyder's veto](#) of a bill that would have allowed gun owners to carry concealed weapons in more places if they received additional training. "In light of the tragic loss of children's lives in Connecticut, this was simply not the time to recklessly advance the expansion of concealed weapons in Michigan. Instead, our policies should focus on improving the safety of our children and the quality of their schools, including the provision of mental health care to our kids who need it." -- **State Rep. Shanelle Jackson, D-Detroit**

"Allowing for an indeterminable number of permit holders to carry concealed in a place of worship was not good public policy to begin with. Churches are meant to be a place of sanctuary for worshipers to gather in peace and free of the threat of gun violence." -- **Michigan Catholic Conference**

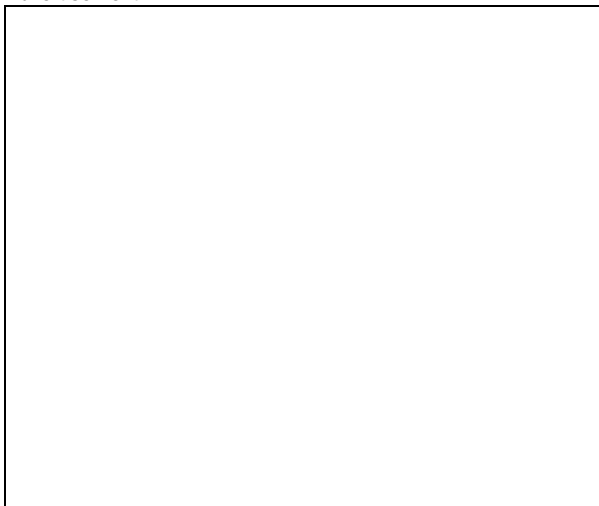
"As the father of two children, I cannot begin to imagine the heartbreak and horror for those in Connecticut. The sad truth is that signing or vetoing Senate Bill 59 would have had no impact on that tragedy. With regard to this specific legislation, it is

unfortunate a compromise was not reached that the governor could support. Neither the governor's approval nor his veto will stop evil from preying on innocent people. With this veto, however, open-carry still exists in schools, churches and other public areas, and we know that criminals do not respect gun-free zones. For these reasons, we will continue to work with the governor to best protect our law-abiding citizens' Second Amendment rights, as well as the safety and security of all of our citizens." -- **Speaker of the House Jase Bolger, R-Marshall**

"This is not the time to carelessly advance an expansion of concealed weapons in Michigan. Concealed weapons are a serious matter, and any new rules about them must be made carefully and with deliberation. That was not the case with this bill." -- **State Rep. Jim Townsend, D-Royal Oak**

"Firearms have absolutely no place in our schools and we should be doing everything we can to reduce the possibility of any

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gunfire in schools. It's our collective responsibility to protect our children and make schools safe sanctuaries." -- David Hecker, president of American Federation of Teachers in Michigan.

"This is a victory for school safety and common sense. We need more math and science teachers in our classrooms, not more guns. Snyder deserves credit for finally standing up to the extreme forces in his own party. Now it's time for Lansing politicians to get their priorities straight and start working together to create jobs and improve education." -- **Zach Pohl, executive director of Progress Michigan**

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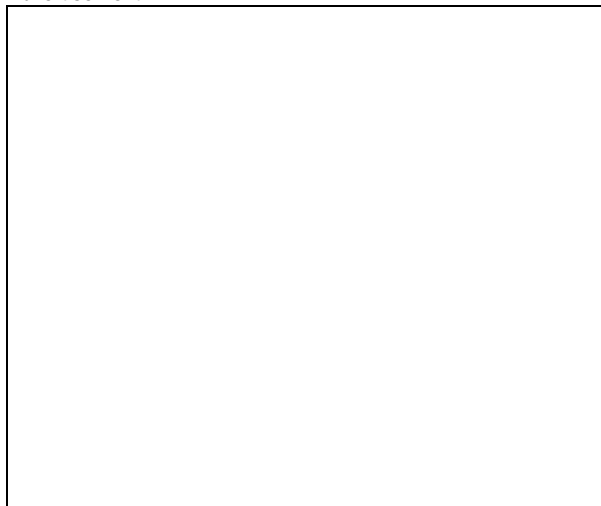
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