www.LenaTaylor.org

SENATOR LENA TAYLOR

a Champion for…

Public Safety & Violence Prevention

Lena's Gun Safety Laws

Independent Investigation of Officer-Involved Deaths

Lena authored and passed 2013 Act 348—the first law of its kind in the nation—which requires that investigations of officer-involved deaths be conducted by an independent law enforcement agency. This became law only days before Dontre Hamilton's tragic shooting and ensured that it was investigated by an outside agency.

Shot Spotter Program

As a longtime member of Wisconsin's state budget committee, Lena has strongly supported funding for Shot Spotter, a service that confirms gunfire and lists the precise locations of shots fired. Keeping our community safe is a top priority for Lena, and this effort includes providing community members with precise, up-to-date information about shots fired. That's why Lena authored 2013 Wisconsin Act 263, which provided an extra $175,000 for this important program. The law more than tripled Shot Spotter in Milwaukee from 3 square miles to 11 square miles.

Mental Health Competency Training

In America, we do not keep accurate statistics of how many people are killed by law enforcement. However, we do know that 1 in 5 Americans will struggle with mental health at some point in their life. In the most extreme cases, they come to a tragic altercation with police. After Dontre Hamilton was shot and killed in 2011, Lena authored 2013 Wisconsin Act 214. The law increased training hours required to be a police officer, paving the way for greater mental health competency training.

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"With the right to bear arms comes the responsibility to bear arms safely."

--- Senator Lena Taylor

Concealed Carry & Castle Doctrine

Guns are a controversial topic, but not one Lena hides from. Lena supported legislation to help families protect themselves from violence whether they're at home or in their communities. However, Lena also fought for higher training and safety accountability and common sense policy to keep guns out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them.

Hunting is an important tradition in Wisconsin. Lena supports gun rights, yet she is also a tireless advocate for common sense gun safety reforms.

Taking Guns from Domestic Abusers

Lena passed 2013 Act 321, a law to force domestic abusers to surrender their firearms. Wisconsin was one of the first states to make it illegal to own a firearm while the subject of a domestic violence restraining order, but unfortunately there were no procedures in place to make sure domestic abusers actually gave up their guns. This loophole often led to tragic consequences, as in the terrible shooting at the spa Brookfield, when a man with a restraining order against him shot and killed his ex-wife and two others. Act 321 created procedures for ensuring and verifying that domestic abusers have actually given up their guns.

Gun violence has claimed too many lives in Milwaukee and ruined even more. Lena has earned a reputation as one of the biggest advocates for gun safety proposals that will make our streets safer. In her 13 years in the Legislature, she has passed over 100 bills into law.

Lena's Continuing Gun Safety Efforts

Universal Background Checks

Lena wrote 2015 SB-776, which would finally close the private seller loophole and require background checks for all types of gun purchases. We need to make sure that proper checks are being done on anyone who wants to buy a firearm.

Increased Training Requirements for Concealed Carry

Current law doesn't specify important details such as class size or duration when it comes to the training required for a concealed carry permit. Lena's bill codifies these details and creates guidelines about gun handling and safe storage. *(2015 SB-777)*

Proof of Insurance for Concealed Carry

The mental and physical damage that can be caused by gun violence is very real, and very costly. Lena's bill would require anyone applying for a concealed carry permit to have proof of insurance to cover damage that may arise from negligent use. *(2015 SB-778)*

No-Fly, No Buy

Suspected terrorists should not be allowed to buy firearms. Lena's bill would prevent anyone on the FBI No-Fly list from purchasing a gun. *(2015 SB-775)*

Microstamping

Lena authored 2015 SB-729, which would require all new handguns to have microstamping technology, creating a small "fingerprint" on each bullet fired. This technology would help law enforcement determine the exact gun a bullet was fired from in criminal cases.

Opposed the Repeal of the 48-Hour Waiting Period

Last April, Republican legislators introduced Senate Bill 35 to repeal the 48 hour waiting period for handgun purchases. This waiting period was designed to serve as a "cooling off" period in order to reduce the occurrence of impulsive gun violence and suicides. Lena fought to stop this harmful legislation.

Lena Taylor: Experienced leader who fights for public safety.

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