



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Andraca

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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New Poll Shows “Overwhelming Bipartisan Support” for Background Checks

Madison, WI -- A new poll by POLITICO/ Morning Consultⁱ shows strong bipartisan support for tightening laws around firearms purchases. Overall, two-thirds of voters favor stricter gun control laws, and **85% support background checks**, including 90% of Democrats and 77% of Republicans.

“As we finally emerge from pandemic lockdowns, Wisconsinites should not be forced back into gun lockdowns,” said Representative Deb Andraca, (D-Whitefish Bay). “In just the past few weeks we have experienced horrible mass shootings in Atlanta, Boulder, Oconomowoc, and on Tuesday a neighborhood in my own district was forced to shelter-in-place. Governor Evers has common-sense gun measures included in his state budget, and I urge my colleagues to support them.”

Evers’ budget includes a measure requiring all firearm transfers go through a licensed firearm dealer, with a background check for every purchaser. It also includes the creation of an extreme risk protection order (ERPO) or “red flag” law. ERPO laws, which are in place in 19 states and Washington DC, allow loved ones or law enforcement to intervene by petitioning a court for an order to temporarily prevent someone in crisis from accessing guns.ⁱⁱ

According to the Milwaukee *Journal-Sentinel*,ⁱⁱⁱ 2020 saw a sharp increase in mass shootings, and this year new gun purchases are up dramatically. Wisconsin state law does not require a background check on private gun sales, which include guns sold online, at garage sales, or person-to-person.

“The best way to reduce gun violence is to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, abusers, and anyone who might harm themselves or others,” said Andraca. “If Republicans are going to remove background checks from the state budget, the people of Wisconsin deserve an explanation.”

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ⁱ National Tracking Poll, <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/playbook-pm/2021/03/31/poll-tailored-gun-control-laws-have-big-bipartisan-support-492310>

ⁱⁱ Everytown for Gun Safety, <https://everytown.org/solutions/extreme-risk-laws/>

ⁱⁱⁱ Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2021/03/05/gda-mass-shootings-rise-in-2020-wi-pmjs/43442219/>



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