

## Extreme Risk Protection Order (“ERPO”) Laws: Understanding their Role in Promoting Safety and Reducing Harm in the Crisis Continuum

National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

CRISIS JAM PRESENTATION

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# FACT SHEET: Vice President Kamala Harris Announces Two Gun Safety Solutions While Continuing Efforts to Keep Schools Safe from Gun Violence



▶ BRIEFING ROOM

▶ STATEMENTS AND RELEASES

*During her visit to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Vice President Harris is announcing two solutions to keep guns out of the hands of people in crisis.*

Keeping students safe from gun violence in their school communities is a top priority for the Biden-Harris Administration. According to the [Washington Post](#) <sup>↗</sup>, there have been 394 school shootings that exposed more than 360,000 students to gun violence since the mass shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado in 1999.

The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to preventing gun violence. President Biden and Vice President Harris worked to enact the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), the most significant gun safety law in nearly

## ERPO or “Red Flag Laws”

- 21 states currently have these laws
- Provide for capacity to have guns removed when a person is thought to be dangerous, with due process protections
- Can prevent suicide and risk of harm to others
- Helps provide a community solution to reduce risk without specifically focusing on mental illness
- Implementation of the laws can benefit from training and technical assistance where needed

# Extreme Risk Protection Orders

- President announcing funding availability and urges the 29 states without these laws to pass them
- Training and technical assistance through an ERPO Resource Center
  - “The Resource Center is funded by a Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance grant made possible by Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), and is run by the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions.”
- Forthcoming TAC through NASMHPD/SAMHSA papers and other outreach

## Highlights

ERPO as part of the safety net within the crisis continuum

Partnerships across sectors will be key (e.g., mental health, law enforcement, courts)

Supports ongoing attention to the need to have means restriction to reduce harm

More to come...

# Thank You!

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