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**2nd Amendment Committee**  
9-12 Project of the Lehigh Valley

## **Following Tragic Parkland, Fla. School Shooting, Trump May Put National Concealed Carry Initiative On Hold**

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[www.2A-LVTP.org](http://www.2A-LVTP.org)

In the wake of the tragic school shooting in Parkland, Fla. where 17 people were killed, President Trump may be backing off his commitment to passing a national concealed-carry law, according to *FOX News*. During a bipartisan meeting, Trump told House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, R-La., that a comprehensive gun bill would not pass if it included a concealed carry reciprocity proposal desired by Republicans.

"You know, I'm your biggest fan in the whole world," Trump told Scalise, according to the report. "I think that bill maybe one day will pass, but it should pass as a separate. If you're going to put concealed carry between states into this bill, we're talking about a whole new ball game." Trump added: "I'm with you, but let it be a separate bill."

"I'm a fan of the NRA," the president told lawmakers at the White House. "There's no bigger fan. I'm a big fan of the NRA. These are great people, these great patriots. They love our country. But that doesn't mean we have to agree on everything."

*Fox News* said it has learned the White House plans to roll out specific policy proposals aimed at keeping guns out of the hands of people who should not have them. Among the proposals are some that may put him at odds with the NRA.

Citing sources that were not identified, FOX News reports that the White House

proposal will include raising the minimum age for buying long guns to 21 from 18, a proposal that Trump acknowledged is opposed by the NRA. The president will also call for training and arming certain members of school faculty and staff, either through federal grants to states or a federal training program.

But President Trump also appeared to continue to support the Second Amendment. Speaking of the Pulse nightclub shooting in September 2016 when an

Islamic terrorist killed 49 people, Trump said: "If you had one person in that room that could carry a gun and knew how to use it, it wouldn't have happened. Or certainly not

to the extent it did, where he was just shooting and shooting and shooting and they were defenseless."

Trump is also expected to reiterate his support for a bill that bolsters the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. He also will back the STOP School Violence Act, which gives the Justice Department grants for preventing school violence.

The president said Wednesday he will get rid of "bump stocks," saying they will "be gone shortly."

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/02/28/trump-to-announce-sweeping-gun-control-safe-schools-package.html>



## Pa. House Committee to Explore Arming Teachers

The State House Education Committee plans to consider whether the General Assembly should give schools the power to arm teachers and other staff, according to a report on [www.sharonherald.com](http://www.sharonherald.com).

The Pennsylvania State Senate passed a measure arming teachers by a 28-22 vote last June, and the bill author, State Sen. Donald White, has championed the idea as a means of helping schools to be prepared for school shooters, since many rural schools don't have access to local police protection. White's plan wouldn't require schools to roll out a plan for arming teachers, but it would allow local school boards to develop programs to allow staff to carry firearms.



State Secretary of Education Pedro Rivera, along with the radical CeaseFire PA, oppose the measure. A spokesman for Gov. Tom Wolf said the governor thinks it's a bad idea too. The Pennsylvania School Board Association has stopped short of opposing White's legislation, according to the [sharonherald.com](http://www.sharonherald.com) report. But the PSBA, which reportedly has some reservations about the idea, seems to be behind other efforts like limiting access to schools, beefing up security barriers "and available non-lethal means that can provide sufficient security without introducing additional firearms and firearms carriers into the learning environment."

## Obeying A Higher authority

In a brave show of resistance against the anti-firearm fever sweeping the Democrat Party and some Republicans, hundreds of couples toting AR-15 rifles packed a Unification church in the Poconos to have their marriages blessed and their weapons celebrated as "rods of iron" that could have saved lives in a recent Florida school shooting, according to an [www.aol.com](http://www.aol.com) article.

The event was hosted at the World Peace and Unification Sanctuary in Newfoundland, where women dressed in white and men in dark suits gripped the guns, which they had been urged to bring unloaded to the church about 100 miles north of Philadelphia. Many celebrants wore crowns - some made of bullets - while church officials dressed in flowing bright pink and white garments to go with their armaments.

A spokesman for the church, now headed by the Reverend Hyung Jin Moon after the death of his father and church founder, the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, said

But Joe Eaton—program director for FASTER Saves Lives, an Ohio program that trains school staff in how to safely and effectively carry firearms—thinks that a school shooter should not be able to run around unopposed. Ohio has allowed school districts to arm educators for five years, and Eaton's program has trained teachers and other school staff from 12 states, according to the [sharonherald.com](http://www.sharonherald.com) article.

Eaton said that almost half of the educators who take his training have concealed carry permits, meaning they often walk around with their firearms in their possession all day long, except when they get to school. He said that people who demonstrate in their daily life that they can safely and responsibly carry a firearm can be trusted to do the same thing at work in a school.

News that a sheriff's deputy at the Parkland school failed to charge into the building to confront the killer didn't entirely surprise Eaton, he said.

"Law enforcement is just like any other job, half the people are going to be above average and half are going to be below average and you never know who's going to show up," Eaton said. He added that the argument could be made that educators who have a personal relationship with students might have extra motivation to courageously engage with a shooter.

[http://www.sharonherald.com/news/pa-house-panel-to-explore-arming-teachers/article\\_4d8e79c2-1917-11e8-8bbo-636724ad1bd3.html](http://www.sharonherald.com/news/pa-house-panel-to-explore-arming-teachers/article_4d8e79c2-1917-11e8-8bbo-636724ad1bd3.html)



the marriage blessing ceremony had been planned long before a man with an AR-15 massacred 17 students and school staff in Parkland, Florida, on Feb. 14. Moon said in a statement that the staff of the Florida school should have been armed, an option President Donald Trump has said should be explored nationwide and which teacher unions have criticized. "Each of us is called to use the power of the 'rod of iron' not to arm or oppress as has been done in satanic kingdoms of this world, but to protect God's children," he said, citing the Book of Revelation in the Bible, according to the [aol.com](http://www.aol.com) report. "If the football coach who rushed into the building to defend students from the shooter with his own body had been allowed to carry a firearm, many lives, including his own, could have been saved."

<https://www.aol.com/article/news/2018/02/28/worshippers-tote-ar-15-assault-rifles-to-pennsylvania-church-blessing/23373578/>

## **Dick's Sporting goods Chain Dumps AR-15s**

Forget about buying an AR-15 at Dick's Sporting Goods from now on. The Pittsburgh-based company, which is the nation's largest sporting goods retailer, is halting sales of assault-style weapons like the one used in the Parkland, Florida, high school shooting, according to a *patch.com/Pennsylvania* report.

Dick's will also no longer will sell firearms to anyone under the age of 21, and is stopping the sale of high capacity magazines.

"We support and respect the Second Amendment, and we recognize and appreciate that the vast majority of gun owners in this country are responsible, law-abiding citizens," Edward Stack, Dick's chairman and CEO said in a statement. "But we have to help solve the problem that's

in front of us. Gun violence is an epidemic that's taking the lives of too many people, including the brightest hope for the future of America – our kids."

Stack acknowledged that Dick's in November legally sold a shotgun to accused Parkland shooter Nikolas Cruz.

"It was not the gun, nor type of gun, he used in the shooting," Stack said. "But it could have been."

Dick's called on elected officials to enact what it termed "common sense gun reform" and ban assault-style firearms; raise the minimum age to purchase firearms to 21; ban high-capacity magazines and bump stocks, and require universal background checks that include relevant mental health infor-

mation and previous interactions with the law.

"Some will say these steps can't guarantee tragedies like Parkland will never happen again. They may be correct," Stack said. "But if common sense reform is enacted and even one life is saved, it will have been worth it."

In addition to Dick's Sporting Goods, the Pittsburgh-based Dick's also owns and operates Field & Stream, Golf Galaxy, True Runner and Chelsea Collective specialty stores. As of October 2017, there were approximately 715 Dick's locations across the country.

Field & Stream has 35 stores across the country, including six in Pennsylvania: Cranberry, Washington, Altoona, Erie, Camp Hill and Scranton.



There was no mention of whether Patriots will begin a movement to call the chain to announce they're boycotting its stores in response to Dick's attack against Second Amendment rights.

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/pittsburgh/dicks-sporting-goods-ends-sale-assault-style-weapons>



### **MEMORIZE THESE SAFETY RULES**

1. Always treat all guns as though they are loaded
2. Always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction
3. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot
4. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it

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