



**K-12 Organizations Strongly Urge Opposition to Bill,
The Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act (H.R. 38), that Would Override Longstanding
Protections for Children & Schools Under the Gun-Free School Zones Act**

November 25, 2025

Dear Speaker Johnson and Majority Leader Scalise,

As the leading national education organizations committed to building safe learning environments and ensuring that every child can grow and reach their full potential, **we are extremely concerned about legislation currently under your consideration that would make it easier for dangerous persons to bring firearms into our schools unnoticed, placing children and families at risk of harm, and severely undermining the educational environment.**

As you will surely agree, there is nothing more important than our nation's children, and this must by necessity include their safety while they are learning at school every day.

That is why it is deeply troubling to see language included within H.R. 38, the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2025, that would intentionally circumvent key protections for children within the Gun-Free-School Zones Act of 1990 and enable potentially dangerous individuals to bring concealed firearms within protected school zones including on school grounds, school playgrounds, and within schools. H.R. 38 would also override laws in states that prohibit guns in privately-owned schools, including daycares and pre-schools and K-12 schools.

In particular, H.R. 38 provides that “a person who possesses or carries a concealed handgun under subsection (a) shall not be subject to the prohibitions of section 922(q).” Section 922(q) is an essential provision of the Gun-Free School Zones Act, a law passed by Congress with bipartisan support and signed by President George H.W. Bush on November 29, 1990. Section 922(q), among other things, prohibits a person if they’re within a school zone from possessing a firearm unless they are a properly authorized individual like a law enforcement officer.

To remove this protection would make it extraordinarily easy for potentially dangerous persons from one state to bring firearms into schools unnoticed in another state, putting everyone who passes through school grounds – from children to parents to educators and beyond – directly in harm's way and at a much greater risk of becoming victims of firearm violence. To illustrate just one example, take a person who has been convicted of stalking their girlfriend who is a teacher at a local school or a person who has been convicted of a violent misdemeanor offense, like misdemeanor child abuse. While many states ban these individuals from obtaining a special permit to concealed carry, other states readily allow them to do so. If passed, the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act (H.R. 38) would enable these types of criminals to obtain a concealed carry permit in one state, a state with fewer restrictions on concealed carry, and carry concealed firearms into a school or school zone in a different state without having to go through the permit process in that state.

With school shootings a constant concern for parents and communities—and firearm violence the leading cause of death among children in our nation—this provision is dangerous and would only worsen the situation for our families, our children, and our schools.

There is no question that the most effective day-to-day school climate is gun-free. As organizations that work closely within schools, we know that maintaining a gun-free zone where students learn and play not only protects them from harm but also fosters a sense of security, which is essential for effective learning and teaching.

For these reasons, we call upon you as our national leaders, **to oppose this extremely dangerous legislation – the Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act, H.R. 38 – and work to ensure that all students have a safe environment in which to thrive and learn.** We thank you in advance for your consideration and if you have any questions, please contact Kate Clabaugh, National PTA Director of Government Affairs, at kclabaugh@pta.org.

Sincerely,

National PTA
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
AFT: Education, Healthcare, Public Services
American School Counselor Association
Council of Administrators of Special Education
NAESP
National Education Association
NASSP