



EPIC-MRA Press Release

Extreme Risk Protection Orders - Red Flag Laws

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EPIC-MRA Statewide Survey – 600 Samples
Live Operator Interviews – Margin of Error 4%
Conducted: February 24, 2018 through February 27, 2018
30% cell phones respondents

Commissioned by: Michigan Chapter – American Academy of Pediatrics

- **Voters split on ways to address gun violence: more strict requirements to buy guns (35%), or, preventing people with mental health issues from getting guns (37%)**
- **7-in-10 support legislation that would allow Extreme Risk Protection Orders**

Here is the first question respondents were asked in the most-recent February 2018 survey:

“The recent mass shooting in Parkland Florida, where a gunman killed 3 teachers and 14 students at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, has once again sparked a national discussion about what can be done to prevent – or at least reduce – the chances of future incidence of gun violence. Two major lines of approaching this problem have emerged in recent years: [ROTATE STATEMENTS BELOW]

(One/Another) primary line of thinking puts emphasis on preventing individuals with a history of mental health issues from gaining access to firearms; and,

(Another/One) primary line of thinking puts emphasis on making requirements to possess a firearm stricter for everyone;

Thinking about these two major ways of addressing gun violence, which approach do you think policy makers in Michigan should take; the approach that....” [ROTATE 1 AND 2 BELOW]

▪ Educational	35%	Emphasizes stricter requirements for <u>anyone</u> looking to buy a firearm
▪ Political	37%	Emphasizes identifying those with mental health issues and preventing them from acquiring a firearm
▪ Industrial	20%	Both (<i>volunteered</i>)
▪ Consumer	6%	Neither (<i>volunteered</i>)
▪ Market	2%	Undecided/Refused
▪ Research		
▪ Analysis		

While Michigan voters are split on this question, there is a dramatic difference in thinking based on partisan affiliation. While Democrats believe by a 51 percent majority that stricter requirements for anyone looking to buy a firearm are needed, Republicans believe by a 53 percent majority that identifying people with mental health issues and preventing them from acquiring a firearm is the best approach, with Independents saying that preventing people with mental health issues from getting a gun is preferred (36 percent) over having stricter requirements for anyone to buy a gun (31 percent).

Here is the second, and perhaps more important, question that respondents were asked about extreme risk protection orders:

“A bill dealing with the possession of firearms is under consideration in the state legislature. This legislation would create a new class of court-issued protection order called an, “extreme risk protection order”. Under this bill, a family member, someone in close relationship, a former spouse, a co-parent or a law enforcement official could petition the court asking for an order prohibiting a named defendant from purchasing or possessing a firearm for a period of one year, and the order could be renewed after that time. To grant such an order, the court would have to be presented with clear evidence that the named defendant poses a significant risk of personal injury to him or herself or others by possessing a firearm. Under certain circumstances the court can order the seizure of any firearms known to be owned by the defendant. If issued by the court, the name of the defendant would be entered into the network of databases maintained by the state, federal and local law enforcement agencies. Violation of the order could result in the defendant being fined up to \$500 and/or serve up to 93 days in jail. Anyone subject to such a court order would have the right to petition the court to rescind or modify the order.

Thinking about the provisions of the bill which would allow an “extreme risk protection order”, do you support or oppose enactment of this legislation into state law? **[IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or just somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**”

39%	Strongly Support
31%	Somewhat Support
70%	TOTAL SUPPORT
20%	TOTAL OPPOSE
12%	Strongly Oppose
8%	Somewhat Oppose
10%	Undecided/Refused

Clearly, Michigan voters see this legislation as an important part of the solution to the problem of gun violence, and there is no partisan divide on the question.

A 78 percent majority of Democrats, 67 percent of Independents and 64 percent of Republicans support this legislation.

By region, support ranges from a low of 63 percent in Northern Michigan to 74 percent in the Bay area, with 72 percent of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County residents also offering support. Tea Party supporters favor the proposal by 65 percent, as do Tea Party opponents by 75 percent, with voters who are “undecided” about the Tea Party supporting the bill by 66 percent.

Union members support the bill by 80 percent, as do households where someone else is a union member by 72 percent, with non-union households also supportive by 67 percent. Young voters, age 18-34, are most

supportive by 78 percent, and while somewhat less supportive, voters age 65 and older still support such legislation by a solid 64 percent.

The lowest level of support for any demographic subgroups were in the low to mid 60 percentage range, with most segments supportive by the overall results or more.

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