

Legislation to authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention

Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.)
Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.)

“Gun violence is a public health issue that needs to be addressed the same way other public health issues are addressed in this country. The United States has one of the most vibrant scientific communities in the world, if we put our resources and energy behind this research, I have no doubt that we could dramatically reduce gun violence nationwide without any inconvenience to law abiding gun owners, as the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has proven possible. Earlier this year, I met with 42 schools of public health from across the country, there is clear consensus that this research is necessary and overdue.” - **John Rosenthal, founder and chairman, Stop Handgun Violence**

“The MA Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence appreciates Senator Markey's continued commitment to the idea that so many GVP advocates understand: that the 33,000+ gun deaths in the United States each year represent a serious public health issue and must be treated as such.” – **Ann Haaser and Janet Goldenberg, Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence**

“The paucity of research in the area of gun violence has substantially hampered our understanding of this issue, deepening a public health epidemic. Any restoration of research in the area will move us forward, providing data about how we can best promote gun safety, with the potential to save tens of thousands of lives annually. This bill would represent a timely investment in an area we have substantially under-invested over the past decades.” - **Dean Sandro Galea, Boston University School of Public Health**

“We applaud Senator Markey and Representative Maloney for re-introducing the bills to fund gun violence research. Over 400,000 Americans have been killed or injured by guns since the Sandy Hook shooting when a severely mentally ill gunman senselessly murdered 20 innocent children and six educators with weapons of war in our neighborhood elementary school on December 14, 2012. Motor vehicle fatalities in our nation have been declining precipitously due to evidence-based research and common sense policies. In 2014, gun deaths outpaced motor vehicle deaths in 21 states and the District of Columbia. Too many American families from cities and towns across the nation are senselessly and tragically impacted by gun violence and it is time for Congress to take meaningful action to end gun violence by adequately funding research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health.” - **Po Murray, Chairman, Newtown Action Alliance.**

“The CDC needs resources to help stop thousands of suicides, homicides, and unintentional shootings. The best and brightest minds are using science and research to save millions of lives from public health problems like car accidents, smoking, and drowning. Those same scientific methods can help end the public health crises of gun violence, if Congress would simply lift the barriers to research and fund this lifesaving work.” - **Dr. Sanjeev Sriram, Campaign Leader, Doctors for America Gun Violence**

“This critical legislation led by Senator Markey and Representative Maloney, will finally allow for critical and long overdue research at the CDC on the public health epidemic of gun violence devastating communities across our country,” - **Maria Cuomo Cole, producer, ‘Newtown’**

“Gun violence kills more than 90 Americans and injures hundreds more each day, and yet it remains one of the most underfunded areas of public health research. The legislation introduced today would appropriate necessary and long overdue funds to the CDC to reclaim their leadership when it comes to gun violence prevention research – a role that has been decimated for more than two decades thanks to a relentless campaign by gun lobby-backed legislators. Senator Markey’s legislation is an essential step in restoring the government’s leadership role in gun violence prevention.” - **Sarah Tofte, Research Director, Everytown For Gun Safety**

“Gun violence in the United States is a public health crisis requiring a comprehensive public health response and solution. An epidemiological analysis of gun violence is vital so physicians and other health providers, law enforcement, and society at large may be able to prevent injury and death resulting from firearms.” – **American Medical Association**

“Gun violence is a public health issue that profoundly affects children, killing twice as many children as cancer, five times as many as heart disease, and 15 times as many as infections. Research at the federal level is key to understanding the causes of gun violence and the most effective public health interventions that will save lives and keep our children, families and communities safe. The American Academy of Pediatrics commends Representative Maloney and Senator Markey for introducing a bill that would expand these critical efforts by authorizing funding for gun violence prevention research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.” - **Fernando Stein, MD, FAAP, president, American Academy of Pediatrics**