

The Making America Safe and Secure (MASS) Act
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The Making America Safe and Secure Act would incentivize states to adopt gun licensing standards similar to those already proven to be effective in Massachusetts. Massachusetts has comprehensive gun licensing laws and not coincidentally the lowest gun death rate in the nation. Specifically, the MASS Act would:

- Authorize Department of Justice grant funding to incentivize and encourage states to adopt and maintain comprehensive licensing standards for all gun owners and dealers.
- Set forth principles to obtain grants, including, but not limited to, requirements that:
 - All gun owners have a license, not only at the time of a firearms or ammunitions purchase, but for the entirety of their firearms ownership.
 - Any person who sells ammunition or sells, rents, or leases a certain number of firearms — as established by the state — in a calendar year obtain a state dealer license.
 - The chief of police or the board or officer having control of the police in a city or town, or a designee, function as the licensing authority.
 - Licensing standards for firearms owners include a thorough background check and a determination of suitability by licensing authority, which may include an in-person interview and the submission of references stating that the applicant is of sound mind and character.
 - First time firearms license applicants complete safety training.
 - The licensing authority be given the discretion to deny, suspend, or revoke a firearms license if an applicant is determined to be unsuitable.
 - The state establish a judicial review process for individuals aggrieved by the denial, suspension, or revocation of a firearms license.
 - For a firearms dealer license, the licensing authority shall conduct an investigation into the criminal history of the applicant.
 - Firearms dealers maintain a permanent place of business, maintain records of sales openly accessible to law enforcement at all times, submit to one mandatory record and inventory inspection each year, and conduct background checks on potential employees.
 - The licensing authority may suspend or revoke a firearms dealer license, after due notice and reasonable opportunity for a licensee to be heard, under certain circumstances – including felony convictions and violations of conditions for holding a license.
 - Firearms owners and dealers report any lost or stolen firearms to law enforcement.
 - The state establish standards for individuals prohibited from obtaining a firearms license or firearms dealer license.
 - The state establish rules and regulations to collect information pertaining to the issuance, expiration, suspension, and revocation of licenses.
 - Firearms dealers and private sellers record all firearms sales, leases, and rentals, and share this information with law enforcement.
 - Gun dealers and private sellers must verify the validity of a firearms license before a transaction.
 - All licensees renew their license on a timeframe established by the state.
 - Licensees are prohibited from using their license to purchase firearms for unauthorized individuals.
 - Gun owners keep firearms safely secured in a locked container or equipped with a tamper-resistant lock when not under the control of the owner.
- Obligate states receiving grants to submit an annual report to the Department of Justice to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Direct the U.S. Government Accountability Office to complete a report two years after the enactment of this bill to evaluate whether states have been able to effectively implement a gun-licensing framework.