



Michigan's new **Safe Homes, Safe Schools Law** requires that school districts inform their parent & caregiver community about secure storage, every year.



WHAT IS MICHIGAN'S SECURE STORAGE LAW?

Michigan's secure storage law, Public Act 17 of 2023, requires that firearms be stored securely with a gun lock or in a gun safe when kids are at the home. If a child accesses a gun, the gun's owner faces stiff penalties, especially if someone gets hurt.

WHAT IS SAFE HOMES, SAFE SCHOOLS?

Public Acts 257 and 258 of 2024 require school districts to distribute literature, such as through an email or a flyer in a kid's backpack, about Michigan's secure storage law every year by October 1st. The materials will be created by Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services and cover both the law and where to find free or low-cost gun locks & safes. It will be provided in English, Spanish, and Arabic.

What can **Schools** do?

01 FOLLOW THE LAW!

Schools should be prepared to send out the required materials by October. The materials will be shared with school districts through the Michigan Department of Education after July 1st.

02 GO BEYOND THE LAW!

Schools are a space that students go to with the expectation of safety. As a school, you can make a commitment to that safety by providing additional resources, such as gun locks, to your community.

What can **Community Members** do?

01 BE A RESOURCE FOR YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Volunteer with End Gun Violence Michigan to share resources with your school board about Safe Homes, Safe Schools, and encourage your school district to take steps beyond the law. Email amoore@endgunviolencemi.org for more info!

02 BE AN EXAMPLE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Securely store your firearm, and talk about it! Normalizing and educating about gun safety is a way that we can save lives. For more resources, check out besmartforkids.org.

Why **secure storage**?

Guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens in Michigan. At least 38.9% of homes in Michigan have at least one gun. When firearms are unsecured, they can easily fall into the hands of our kids, leading to accidents, aiding in suicide, and increasing the risk that someone gets hurt or killed. We know that roughly three-quarters of school shooters under the age of 18 got the gun from their home or the home of a close relative, and we know that feelings of isolation and thoughts of suicide among our youth is incredibly high right now. Teaching parents and caregivers about secure gun storage, and supporting them in securely storing their firearms, is a crucial way that we can prevent these injuries and deaths among our youth.

WHAT IF I NEED TO QUICKLY ACCESS MY FIREARM IN AN EMERGENCY?

There are many gun storage devices that allow for fast access to your firearm. Biometric gun safes, for example, allow you to access your firearm as quickly as you would if it were in a bedside drawer.

HOW DO I SECURELY STORE MY FIREARM?

Michigan's law requires that firearms be stored in a gun safe, or kept unloaded and locked with a device like a gun lock that would stop anyone other than the owner from using it. It is especially effective if you do both, and if ammunition is kept separate from the secured gun.