

Sample language for December Sabbath actions

Below you'll find sample language that you and your house of worship can use to reach out to members of Congress urging them to address gun violence. They're currently written in the form of an action alert, but feel free to copy and paste whatever language you like and tweak these action alerts as you see fit.

If you would like to adjust these asks so they refer to a different bill, you can find a list of the names and numbers of certain bills below:

- Extreme Risk Protection Order - S. 506/H.R. 1236
- High Capacity Magazine Ban - H.R. 1186
- Assault Weapons Ban - HR 1296/S. 66
- Disarm Hate Act - H.R. 2708/S. 1462

Sample action alert – House:

After the recent tragedies that struck our country this summer, the House is moving legislation to address gun violence. The House Judiciary Committee passed three bills, and we believe one – The Extreme Risk Protection Order Act of 2019 (H.R. 1236) – might have a chance of becoming law.

[Will you take two minutes to contact your representative?](#)

ERPOs allow families, household members, and/or law enforcement officers to petition courts to temporarily restrict an individual's access to guns if the person poses a threat to themselves or others. ERPOs have already helped prevent potential mass shootings, but they tend to be most effective at reducing suicides. In the state of Connecticut, which has an ERPO law, [every 10-20 ERPO issued prevented at least one suicide](#).

We need this bill to pass with a strong vote that sends a message to the Senate that Congress can no longer wait to act. With each bill that passes the House, it puts more pressure on the Senate to take action. We need your voice to help tell members of Congress just how urgent this gun violence crisis is in our country. H.R. 1236 represents an important and necessary piece to help solve the complex puzzle of gun violence in America.

Our political leaders need to stand up and vote for bills that can help stem the murders and terror from which none of us are immune. [Tell your representatives to vote in favor of this legislation](#) and honor those who have lost their lives with action.

Sample action alert – Senate:

In spite of the recent tragedies that shook our country this summer, the Senate has refused to take action on gun violence. The prevention of gun violence isn't about partisanship or politics. It's about keeping people alive. Gun violence is taking an unacceptable toll on our society, resulting in mass killings and senseless deaths happening every day.

Currently 22 percent of guns are purchased without a background check through unlicensed and private sellers. S. 42 closes this loophole so that people who are barred from buying and owning guns will no longer have an easy end run around the national background check system. Furthermore, universal background checks have robust, bipartisan support among Democrats, Republicans, and gun owners alike.

Background checks prevent gun violence. Since 1994, more than 3 million people legally prohibited from owning a gun have been denied the chance to purchase one because of existing background check laws.

The scourge of gun violence has plagued our communities for too long. It's time for Congress to act and prevent guns from getting into the hands of dangerous people who shouldn't have them in the first place. Your senators need to hear from you. [Tell your Senators to support this lifesaving legislation.](#)