

SUPPORT S.B. 98



Prohibit firearm possession with a domestic violence conviction

Sponsors: Sen. Hearcel F. Craig (D-Columbus) and Sen. Casey Weinstein (D-Akron)

Ohio law does **not** prohibit individuals convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors from purchasing or possessing firearms, or require convicted offenders to surrender their firearms.

Why is S.B. 98 important?

- Federal law bars most people convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence offenses from possessing firearms.
- **There is no parallel Ohio law nor an Ohio law that ensures federal law is enforced.**
- Firearms were the weapons used to kill in **84% of DV homicides in Ohio in 2025.**¹
- Ohio would join **32 other states**² that prohibit misdemeanor domestic violence offenders from possessing guns.
- S.B. 98 has the **potential to save lives.** State laws that prohibit firearm possession by those convicted of any violent misdemeanor were associated with a 23% reduction in intimate partner homicides caused by firearms.³

If passed, S.B. 98 would

Prohibit a person who has been **convicted** of a first-degree misdemeanor domestic violence offense from possessing a firearm or dangerous weapon.

Make people who violate this law eligible to be charged with having weapons under disability, which is a felony of the third degree.

1. Ohio Domestic Violence Network. (2025). Ohio domestic violence fatalities: 2025 infographic. https://www.odvn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/FatalityInfographic2025_web.pdf

2. Everytown Research & Policy. (2026, January 14). Prohibition for convicted domestic abusers. <https://everytownresearch.org/rankings/law/prohibition-for-convicted-domestic-abusers/>

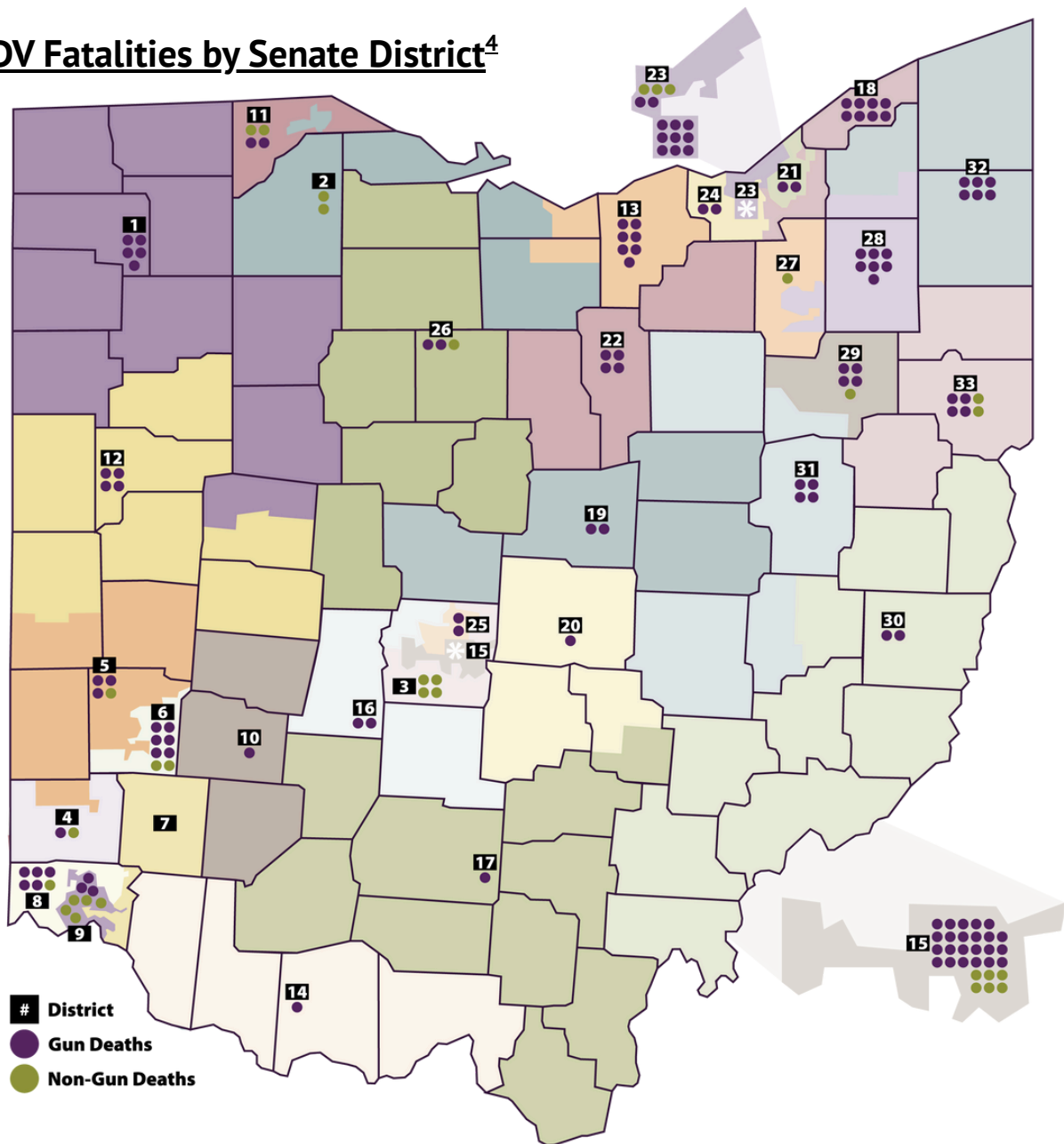
3. Zeoli, A. M., Malinski, R., & Turchan, B. (2019). Risks and targeted interventions: Firearms in intimate partner violence. *Epidemiologic Reviews*, 41(1), 115–139. <https://doi.org/10.1093/epirev/mxy010>

U.S. Supreme Court Affirmed Constitutionality of Disarming Domestic Abusers in 2024

In *United States v. Rahimi*, 602 U.S. 680 (2024) the Supreme Court upheld the federal firearm prohibition for people subject to certain domestic violence protection orders. This landmark decision addressed one of the strongest predictors of intimate partner homicides. Since the case was decided in June 2024, at least three states strengthened their laws, or strengthened their surrender and seizure processes, to increase the likelihood that abusers are ordered to relinquish their firearms.

“The Second Amendment permits the disarmament of individuals who pose a credible threat to the physical safety of others.”
-From the majority opinion delivered by Chief Justice Roberts in United States v. Rahimi

SFY25 DV Fatalities by Senate District⁴



4. Ohio Domestic Violence Fatalities Report. 2025. https://www.odvn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/FatalityInfographic2025_web.pdf