

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 1562

Reducing the risks of lethality and other harm associated with gun violence, gender-based violence, and other types of violence (2023 Legislative Session)

Evidence indicates that HB 1562 would likely decrease access to firearms for some people who have certain criminal convictions and civil violations, which would likely decrease future risk of firearm abuse, injury, and death by homicide and suicide and decrease health inequities for victims and survivors of firearm-related harm.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Thai, Lekanoff, Taylor, Berry, Ryu, Reed, Kloba, Entenman, Walen, Doglio, Davis, Wylie, Ramel, Ormsby, Pollet, Duerr

Summary of Bill:

Modifies laws related to unlawful possession of a firearm and restoration of right to possess a firearm ([RCW 9.41.040](#)):

- Modifies the definition of “serious offense” to include any felony charge related to driving ([RCW 46.61.502](#)) or being in actual physical control of a vehicle ([RCW 46.61.504](#)) while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, cannabis, or any drug.
- Extends unlawful possession of a firearm in the first degree by making it a Class B felony for a person to own; access; have in their custody, control, or possession; receive, purchase, or attempt to receive or purchase any firearm after being convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of any felony charge related to driving ([RCW 46.61.502](#)) or being in actual physical control of a vehicle ([RCW 46.61.504](#)) while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, cannabis, or any drug.
- Extends unlawful possession of a firearm in the second degree by making it a Class C felony for a person to own; access; have in their custody, control, or possession; receive, purchase, or attempt to receive or purchase any firearm after being convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of certain criminal convictions and civil violations committed on or after the effective date.
- Extends the time before a person may petition a court to have their right to possess a firearm restored to 10 years if they are convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of certain criminal convictions and civil violations.
- Specifies additional requirements a person must meet to petition a court to have their right to possess a firearm restored.
- Establishes a process for petitioning to have the right to possess a firearm restored.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence for relevant provisions in HB 1562:

- **Informed assumption** that extending unlawful possession of a firearm to certain criminal convictions and civil violations may decrease access to firearms for some people who have

For more information:
Phone: (360) 628-6823
Email: hir@sboh.wa.gov
sboh.wa.gov/hir

WASHINGTON STATE
BOARD OF HEALTH

HEALTH EQUITY
Governor's Interagency Council
on Health Disparities

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of HB 1562

Reducing the risks of lethality and other harm associated with gun violence, gender-based violence, and other types of violence (2023 Legislative Session)

these criminal convictions and civil violations. This assumption is based on current statute, information from key informants, and evidence from the scientific literature.

- **Informed assumption** that extending the time before a person may petition a court to have their right to possess a firearm restored to 10 years for certain criminal convictions and civil violations may decrease access to firearms for some people who have these criminal convictions and civil violations. This assumption is based on current statute and information from key informants.
- **Strong evidence** that decreasing access to firearms for some people who have certain criminal convictions and civil violations would likely decrease future risk of firearm abuse, injury, and death by homicide and suicide.
- **Strong evidence** that decreasing risk of firearm abuse, injury, and death by homicide and suicide would likely decrease health inequities for victims and survivors of firearm-related harm.
- “Other Considerations” includes potential impacts of criminal legal system involvement for people who have certain criminal convictions and civil violations and are convicted of a felony under RCW 9.41.040.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<https://sboh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-01/HIR-2023-02-HB1562.pdf>

For more information:
Phone: (360) 628-6823
Email: hir@sboh.wa.gov
sboh.wa.gov/hir

WASHINGTON STATE 
BOARD OF HEALTH

 **HEALTH
EQUITY**
Governor's Interagency Council
on Health Disparities