

**THE SACRAMENTO BEE**

**CAPITOL ALERT**

# **Gilroy shooting happened despite strict California gun laws. What more can state lawmakers do?**

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In the echoes of gunshots that killed three people and injured a dozen more during a garlic festival in Gilroy on Sunday, California lawmakers responded with the legislative message that while the Golden State has some of the strictest gun control laws, there's still work to be done.

"No more thoughts and prayers," Assemblyman Phil Ting, a San Francisco Democrat, wrote on [Twitter](#). "Time to take more action so we can go to work, school and festivals in peace without fear of getting shot."

Ting is among a handful of lawmakers championing bills to increase gun control that are still being considered in the Capitol, now that the 2019 session is halfway through.

Here's what could come next in California's effort to end gun violence.

## **LIMITING FIREARM PURCHASES**

To stymie the flow of weapons into the market, [Senate Bill 61](#) would prohibit anyone from purchasing more than one firearm, specifically long guns, per month.

The legislation also prohibits selling semiautomatic rifles to any person under 21.

The Gilroy gunman, identified as Santino William Legan, was 19. He was killed by police shortly after using what witnesses described as a rifle to gun down festival attendees, including a 6-year-old boy who was shot dead.

Former Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed similar bills in 2016 and 2018.

"We cannot let violent gun tragedies become normalized and California must continue every effort on getting guns out of the wrong hands, which included this teen," the bill's author and longtime gun reform advocate state Sen. Anthony Portantino, D-La Cañada Flintridge, said. When introducing the bill in January, Portantino said that "one-gun purchase per month should be more than adequate for the law-abiding citizen."

"California may be a Western State, but it's no longer the Wild West," he said. "A person shouldn't be able to walk into a gun store and come out with an arsenal."

## **EXPANDING GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS**

The Gun Violence Restraining Order law in California allows family members, spouses and domestic partners to report someone with a gun if they pose a danger to themselves or others.

