

Great Lakes & Mid-Atlantic Injury & Violence Prevention Legislative Narrative *Selected Policy Domains*

Prepared by Doyle Strategies LLC to accompany the [GLMA Injury & Violence Prevention Legislative Scan](#). This narrative provides plain-language summaries of what the identified laws generally do, along with state-specific notes where sources were captured. Reviewed as of February 2026.

Firearm Injury Prevention

This scan tracks three high-impact firearm injury prevention levers that are frequently used as indicators of a state's overall policy environment:

- Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs / “red flag”): court orders that temporarily restrict firearm access for a person determined to pose a significant risk to self or others, typically with due-process steps and time-limited orders.
- Universal background checks (UBC): requiring background checks for most or all firearm sales/transfers, including private-party transfers (often with exceptions).
- Permitless concealed carry: allowing concealed carry without a permit (sometimes with age/training limitations).

Safe / Secure Storage Laws

Safe storage / Child Access Prevention (CAP) laws generally create criminal (and sometimes civil) liability if a firearm owner stores a firearm in a way that allows a child or prohibited person to access it, or if a child actually gains access. Some laws require locked storage under specified circumstances.

Secure storage policy features (where identifiable) include:

- Tax holiday/exemption or funding to provide storage devices for free.
- Dealer point-of-sale (POS) requirements to provide secure storage information.
- Required education/awareness campaigns around safe storage.

State notes (selected):

- Illinois: Identified statewide public awareness/education requirements around safe gun storage (Safe Storage & Public Awareness Act).
- Michigan: Identified a state-supported effort to distribute free gun locks (funding referenced in state communications).
- Delaware: Identified civil liability protections for the distribution of secure gun storage devices (supports partner distribution models).

Overdose Prevention

Overdose prevention legislation frequently includes:

- Good Samaritan protections (immunity or reduced penalties) for certain low-level drug offenses when a person seeks medical assistance for an overdose.
- Naloxone access provisions (standing orders, third-party prescribing/dispensing, and immunity for lay administration).

Suicide Prevention

Suicide prevention legislation often establishes statewide infrastructure (an office, advisory council, task force, or plan requirement) and can include school-based prevention training requirements, postvention guidance, and data/fatality review structures.

State notes (selected):

- Delaware: Office of Suicide Prevention identified within DHSS; Delaware code includes a dedicated chapter on suicide prevention coordination.
- Minnesota: State statute directs MDH coordination of a statewide suicide prevention program and task force, and contemplates grants if funds are appropriated.
- Michigan: A legislatively created Suicide Prevention Commission existed under 2019 PA 177 but was reported to sunset in 2024.
- West Virginia: School suicide prevention awareness training requirements are codified.

Domestic / Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)

IPV-related injury prevention legislation commonly includes protective order frameworks, criminalization/penalty enhancements for high-lethality behaviors (e.g., strangulation), firearm relinquishment in protective order contexts, and fatality review teams.

State notes (selected):

- Illinois: Domestic Violence Fatality Review Act identified; strangulation felony laws also apply.
- Virginia: Domestic assault & battery by strangulation statute is a distinct offense.

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking prevention/response laws often establish statewide task forces or coordinating councils to align law enforcement, victim services, child welfare, and public health stakeholders, and may require reporting or training.

NCSL reports that nearly every state has created a working group/task force/advisory group via statute or executive order.

State notes (selected):

- Delaware: Legislatively created task force/council authority in Delaware Code tit. 11, § 787(k).
- Maryland: Task force legislation including 2015 HB 456 and 2016 SB 863.
- Michigan: Task force authority in Mich. Comp. Laws § 752.971 et seq.
- Minnesota: Task force authority in Minn. Stat. § 145.4717.
- Virginia: Task force authority in Va. Code § 9.1-116.5.
- Wisconsin: Task ask force authority in Wis. Stat. § 15.257(3).

Community and/or Youth Violence

Community/youth violence prevention legislation can create statewide offices to coordinate violence prevention strategy, fund community violence intervention (CVI) grants, or require statewide planning/reporting.

State notes (selected):

- Illinois: Statutory Office of Firearm Violence Prevention identified (within Illinois statute).
- Michigan: Governor's executive order established a Gun Violence Prevention Task Force (executive, not legislative).
- Virginia: Office of Safer Communities / violence intervention reporting referenced in appropriation language.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and/or Concussion

All jurisdictions in this scan have youth sports concussion laws or equivalent requirements that generally include: removal from play after suspected concussion, written clearance by a healthcare professional before return to play, and education requirements for coaches/parents/athletes.

Helmet Laws (motorcycle, bicycle, e-scooter)

Motorcycle helmet laws are commonly categorized as: (a) universal/all-rider helmet laws, or (b) partial laws (e.g., limited by age, coverage type, or insurance). This scan includes an all-rider indicator for each jurisdiction.

Bicycle and e-scooter helmet requirements often depend on: (1) rider age; and (2) whether the requirement is statewide or local/municipal. Many states rely heavily on local ordinances for bicycles and micromobility.

Because bicycle/e-scooter helmet provisions can be highly local and change frequently, this scan includes the primary motorcycle helmet indicator plus a reference to IIHS's bicycle helmet law table for statewide bicycle laws.