



# ***Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence***

## **California Governor Seeks State Law on Guns that Mirrors Texas Anti-Abortion 'Vigilante' Law**

Gavin Newsom, Governor of California, early in December ([Newsom Calls for Gun Legislation Modeled on the Texas Abortion Law - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)), and in a Washington Post Op-Ed last week ([Opinion | Gavin Newsom: California will use Texas precedent to save lives from guns - The Washington Post](#)) called for enactment of CA legislation similar to a Texas law strictly prohibiting nearly all abortions that was recently allowed to stand by the US Supreme Court. The first-of-its-kind Texas law encourages private citizens to enforce its provisions and rewards them for so doing, thereby avoiding normal judicial challenges to severe restrictions on what has long been deemed a constitutional human right.

The legislation for which Gavin called would do the same for CA private citizens who seek to enforce the state's assault weapons ban and strict regulation of 'ghost guns.' While Gavin's call has been criticized by many legal scholars, it has been praised by many, including CA legislators, who note that it demonstrates how laws like Texas' can have vastly more widespread and unintentional effects on the constitutionally based legal system, with likely deleterious results, as Gavin noted.

Gavin also seeks to protect California's strong gun regulatory set of laws from a potential ruling by a newly right-wing US Supreme Court to dismantle gun violence prevention laws using a dangerous misinterpretation of the Second Amendment.

While Heeding is decidedly uneasy about movement toward further vigilante Texas-type laws, we also believe that weakening existing gun laws on Second Amendment grounds would be dangerous and deplorable and should not just be accepted. We will follow this issue and keep you informed.

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*Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence (Heeding)* is a faith-based and grassroots organization devoted solely to saving lives from the uniquely American scourge of gun violence. *Heeding* is headquartered in Philadelphia, with volunteer chapters in the Mid-Atlantic. *Heeding's* activities include using faithful public pressure to persuade gun retailers to eschew sales to those who would resell guns on the street, public interfaith Murder Site Witnesses in effected neighborhoods, installations of Memorials to the Lost™, portable tee-shirt memorials honoring local victims of gun violence and more.

***Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence™***

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