

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 1943 (Gipson) – As Amended March 23, 2026

Policy Committee: Education

Vote: 8 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: Yes

Reimbursable: Yes

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE), one or before July 1, 2027, to develop, in consultation with the Department of Justice (DOJ), Secure Firearm Storage Notice and requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide it to the parents or guardians of each enrolled pupil.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Minor and absorbable costs to CDE and DOJ.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

AB 1943 ensures that information provided through our schools is not only updated, but more visible and actionable for parents and caregivers. By expanding how schools share secure storage information, including posting it on district websites and digital platforms, we increase the likelihood that families will see and engage with these critical safety messages. Secure firearm storage is one of the most effective steps we can take to protect children and prevent avoidable tragedies.

2) **Background. Parental Notifications.** Current law requires each school district to provide numerous notifications to parents or guardians at the beginning of each school year. Notifications range from information about a local educational agency's sexual harassment policy to opportunities to receive state funds for advanced placement exam fees. AB 906 (Portantino), Chapter 144, Statutes of 2022, required LEAs add notifications related to safe gun storage and child access prevention laws to the list of required notifications. The current law gun storage safety notification requirement refers only to notifying parents and guardians of current safe gun storage laws and child access prevention but in less prescriptive detail than required by this bill.

This bill requires the Secure Firearm Storage Notification include information and resources regarding the importance of secure firearm storage for preventing youth from bringing firearms to school, as well as preventing youth suicide, as well as a plain-language summary of California's child access prevention law, among other information. Additionally, this bill

requires the CDE to develop model language for the Secure Firearm Storage Notification, including formatting options appropriate for LEA websites and social media and requires LEAs to provide the notification annually as well as post it on its internet website and update it annually.

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