



TSTA NEWS

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TSTA: Gun reform bill in Washington is a small step toward public safety; inaction in Austin is appalling

Texas State Teachers Association President Ovidia Molina released the following statement:

We commend the 64 U.S. senators who voted last night to advance a bipartisan gun reform bill that takes some steps toward keeping firearms out of the hands of dangerous people. The legislation doesn't go far enough, but it begins addressing the plague of mass shootings endangering public safety in our state and country, including our school buildings.

The senators — including John Cornyn of Texas, who helped negotiate the bill — are at least trying to get to the heart of the problem while, back in Austin, Gov. Greg Abbott and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick refuse to even discuss gun reform, even following the tragic slaying of 19 elementary school students and two teachers last month in Uvalde.

Conducting surprise school inspections and making sure campus doors are locked, as Abbott is demanding, don't do anything to keep guns, even assault rifles, out of the hands of people who use them to kill school children, educators, shoppers, worshippers and other members of our local communities, wherever they may congregate.

Abbott and Patrick still follow the dictates and promote the profits of the gun lobby, as does U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, who voted against advancing the gun reform bill in Washington. That is appalling.